

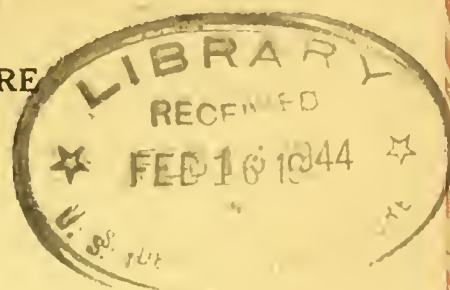
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics



Agricultural Economics Bibliography No. 68

INCIDENCE OF THE PROCESSING TAXES  
UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ACT

A Selected List of References

Compiled by Louise O. Bercaw  
Under the Direction of Mary G. Lacy, Librarian  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Washington, D. C.  
January 1937



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## CONTENTS

	Page
Foreword .....	III
Sources Consulted .....	IV
General .....	1-11
Cotton .....	11-22
Dairy Products .....	22
Hogs .....	22-29
Jute .....	29-30
Paper .....	30-31
Rice .....	31-32
Sugar .....	32-33
Tobacco .....	33
Wheat .....	33-38
Index .....	39-46

## FOREWORD

This is an annotated, classified bibliography of selected references to books, pamphlets, and periodical articles on the incidence of the processing taxes imposed under the Agricultural Adjustment Act. In general, references to editorial comment on the subject have been omitted.

References on the incidence of other processing taxes have not been included, but attention is called to an article by Mary Gaffney, entitled "Processing Taxes in a Chemical Process Industry." (Chemical Industries 38(2):125-127. February 1936) It refers to the effect on the soap industry of the processing tax on certain oils imposed under the Revenue Act of 1934.

At various times during the years 1933-1935 hearings on proposed processing and compensatory taxes were held by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. These hearings have not been published. Typewritten transcriptions of them are available for consultation in the hearing clerk's office in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. References to periodical articles giving brief summaries of some of the hearings have been included in this bibliography.

Grateful acknowledgment is made of the assistance given the compiler by several of the economists of the Department of Agriculture who are studying the incidence of these taxes.

Mary G. Lacy, Librarian  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics,  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

January 1937.



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Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

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Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington,  
D.C. v.7, no.1, January 1933 through v.10, no.9, November  
1936.

Agricultural Index; issued by the H.W. Wilson Co., 960 University  
Ave., New York, N.Y. January 1934 through September 1936.

Cotton Literature; issued by U.S. Department of Agriculture,  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Division of Cotton Marketing  
Branch Library. v.3, no.1, January 1933 through v.6, no.11,  
November 1936.

Public Affairs Information Service. Bulletin; issued by Public  
Affairs Information Service, 11 W. 40th St., New York, N.Y.  
v.20, 1934 through v.23, no.7, Nov. 14, 1936.



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Bureau of Agricultural Economics

GENERAL

1. American Liberty League. Consumers and the AAA; a study of the system of regimentation flagrantly violative of constitutional liberties which makes the consumer the real forgotten man of the present administration. 15pp. Washington, D.C. October 1935. (Document no.67) Pam.Coll.  
Argues that the processing tax and the AAA have added greatly to the cost of living.
2. Barnes, J.B. Legal status of AAA and processing tax. Natl. Provisioner 93(17):111-116. October 1935. 286.85 N21  
Who pays the tax? p.115.
3. Barnum, J.D. Recovery or social revolution? Amer. Agr. 132(16):469, 485. Aug. 3, 1935. 6 Am3  
A paper critical of the AAA, read at the meeting of the American Institute of Cooperation.  
Mr. Barnum's general point is that "the Northeast, including farmers most of all, has paid very heavily in processing taxes and received very little in return."
4. Burton, L. V. Where the processing tax fails. Why the producer, not the consumer, always pays the processing tax on perishables. Food Industries 6(2):60-62, 95. February 1934. 389.8 F737
5. D, W.K. How long will consumers pay these taxes? Farmer-Stockman 48(15): 2. Aug. 1, 1935. 6 Ok45  
An Oklahoma farmer complains that the processing tax is a burden on the consumer.
6. Davis, C.C. Benefit payments from processing taxes raise farm income nearly one-third. 5pp., mimeogr. [Washington, D.C., U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Adjustment Admin. 1934] 1.94 Ad4Da  
"The processing tax is collected at the point of processing or manufacturing. This means that the tax collections are heaviest in the largest processing centers. This does not mean that the tax falls disproportionately on states where these processing plants are concentrated. The tax is not concentrated in that way, but is spread out as a factor in the price of the product and hence it is shared by consumers generally. The tax has the same effect upon consumer price as would a rise in the price of raw material to the extent of the tax." - p.4.

7. Du Brul, E.F. The immorality of the AAA. Commonweal 23(13):341-343. Jan. 24, 1936. Pam. Coll.

"The thesis of this paper is that the processing tax levied under the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933 and its amendments of 1935 were inherently and fundamentally immoral. This thesis is based on the following premises: (1) Taxes should be levied mostly on those best able to pay. (2) Taxes should be collected only for general purposes of government, which benefit all citizens, and not for the enrichment of any particular economic group of citizens merely as members of such a group... The consumer paid not only the tax but a pyramid of profits on top of it, so that the burden was multiplied to those least able to pay." -- quoted from first two paragraphs of the article.

8. Ezekiel, Mordecai, and Bean, L.H. Economic bases for the Agricultural adjustment act. 67pp. Washington, U.S. Dept. Agr. 1933. 1Ag84Ec

See pp.59-61 for sections entitled "Effectiveness of the tax in raising net farm incomes will vary with different commodities; Applying the tax on cotton, even without limitation of production, would raise farmers' returns; On domestic commodities, the tax would primarily facilitate the control of production, but would not of itself provide increased farm income."

9. Farrell, G.E. Order out of chaos in agriculture. Address... at annual meeting of Iowa Farm bureau federation, Des Moines, Iowa, Thursday afternoon, January 25, 1934. 13pp., mimeogr. [Washington, D.C.] U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Adjustment Admin. 1934. 1.94 W56Fa

"As to the question of who pays the processing tax, I can do no better than to cite you a quotation from a recent statement by Secretary Wallace. He said:

"Of course he could make out a fairly good case that some of the hog processing tax has been passed back to the producer, but it doesn't seem to be true of other processing taxes, and the prospects are that it will be less true of the hog processing tax within a few weeks. But even if the producer does pay some of the hog processing tax, what is so shocking to the farmer about that? It's the principle that the Middle West fought for in the equalization fee of the McNary-Haugen bill, back in Coolidge's day. Furthermore, such of this tax as is collected from producers gets back to the cooperating producers in the form of benefit payments."

10. Harrower, D.C. A judicial pandora's box; a problem in the wake of death of the AAA - who is to get processing-tax refunds? Barron's 16(2): 28. Jan. 13, 1936. 284.8 B27

The writer's last paragraph is as follows:

"There have been a number of cases where it is shown that the buyer of the goods may recover from the manufacturer if there was an agreement that he should profit by any reduction of the costs, otherwise he has no claim upon the manufacturer or processor. This will be easier to understand if one remembers that a price is a composite of all the costs of production such as raw materials, labor, depreciation of plant, rent, interest, taxes, and other costs of turning out



the finished product. In a sales-tax case that has not yet grown old, the Supreme Court said of the tax, that 'It is a part of the price,' and also that 'The purchaser does not pay the tax.' This seems to settle the question that in case of a refund of the processing tax the person who purchased the goods from the manufacturer is not entitled to receive any part of it unless there was a prior agreement to that effect."

11. Kendrick, M. S. The processing taxes. An examination of the nature, purpose, administration and desirability of the various taxes levied under the AAA. Tax Mag. 13(12):726-729, 754-756. December 1935. 284.58 T195  
Incidence of the AAA taxes, pp.754, 756. Discusses the incidence of the processing tax on hogs, cotton, wheat, and tobacco, and more briefly, the incidence of the tax on corn, rye, rice, peanuts and sugar.
12. Lutz, H.L. Public finance. Ed.3, 940pp. New York, London, D. Appleton-Century Co., Inc. [1936] (The Century Studies in Economics) 284 L97  
References at end of chapters.  
Ch. 28, Some Effects of Taxation, has a short section, pp.698-699, on bounties and the probable effects of processing taxes.
13. McKelvie, S.R. Out with processing taxes! Nebr. Farmer 76(2):1. Jan. 20, 1934. 6 N27  
Signed editorial. "Administration forces headed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture are being marshalled to include cattle among the listed 'basic commodities' under the AAA and levy processing taxes upon them. We are opposed to it. We are opposed to any further extraordinary taxes of any kind on farm commodities, either raw or processed."  
Several reasons are given for this opposition including the one that the farmer pays the processing tax.
14. Mason, J.E. Incidence of the processing taxes. (Who pays the tax?) Tenn. Farmer 28(7):8. Summer 1935. 6 Un1  
A short discussion of the incidence of the processing taxes on wheat, cotton, tobacco, and hogs.  
This article is one of a series of two articles. The first is in the March 1935 issue of the Tennessee Farmer and is entitled "The Processing Tax and Its Effect in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration." In it Mr. Mason discussed "the processing taxes for each important commodity in regard to the amount of the tax in dollars and cents, total taxes collected, benefit payments, and the general economic effects."
15. Montague, G.H. New deal costs and the high costs of living. Amer. Acad. Polit. and Social Sci. 183:247-254. January 1936. 280.9 Am34  
In the first part of this article the author states that, although the processing taxes are paid by the manufacturer, they have become sales taxes, and have greatly increased the cost of living.

16. National industrial conference board, inc. American agricultural conditions and remedies; preliminary general review. 57pp. New York [1936] 281.12 N215

Agricultural adjustment, pp.30-35. The following is quoted from pp.30-31:

"The Department of Agriculture data show that, in the case of some farm products which happen to be on a domestic sales basis, the bulk of the processing tax could not be passed on to the consumer throughout any extended period. For those products the consumer paid just about the same portion of his income no matter what the quantity and no matter what the price. Adding a processing tax simply reduced consumption so that the total consumer payment for the product with its tax was about the same. In such cases, over a period of time, the tax had to be taken out of the first price paid the farmers. The return of the tax in the form of a benefit payment would have left total farm returns just as they would have been had all farmers cooperated; but all did not cooperate. These non-cooperators lost the amount of the tax and the cooperators were subject to a net gain. Since the benefit payment was used to induce reduced production, the farmer would get about the same income for his product and save on labor payments; the consumer would pay as much for his decreased supply of food. This was the general situation in regard to meats and other animal products insofar as the reduction programs were carried out."

In regard to wheat, this statement is made on p.33:

"Thus the A.A.A. failed to control production of wheat, and may even have stimulated it... An average payment of about \$100 million a year to the farmers was, however, probably an increase for farm income, since the tax could not be largely passed back to the farmer in the case of wheat."

17. National industrial conference board, inc. National reconstruction and recovery program: administration and financing. Part III. Processing taxes. Conf. Bd. Inform. Serv.: Domestic Affairs. Memorandum No.21, 13pp., mimeogr. New York. Jan. 12, 1934. 280.9 N2162

See particularly sections, Processing Taxes and Prices, pp.8-11; Compensating Taxes and Prices, pp.11-12; and Other Aspects of Processing Taxes, pp.12-13.

The following is quoted from the Summary, p.1:

"The intent of the statute imposing processing taxes is that they shall be borne solely or primarily by the consumer. Examination of the prices of the commodities on which taxes are imposed and the prices of finished articles in the production of which these commodities are used indicates that the taxes on wheat and cotton have been shifted forward to the consumer, that the tax on tobacco has been absorbed by the manufacturing companies, and that the tax on hogs has been generally shifted backward to the producer. Prices of consumers' goods other than those processed from basic agricultural commodities may be increased, if numerous compensating taxes are imposed. Although it may appear that a processing tax is not shifted to consumers in the first months in which it is levied, the tax may



be shifted over a more extended period.

"Processing taxes are a part of a program designed to control production and to increase prices. The contribution of consumers through higher prices, which tend to follow the imposition of processing taxes, is made in order that a higher level of prices for agricultural commodities may be established. The larger part of the cost of the program will be borne by urban residents, the heaviest burden falling upon those in the lower-income groups, who spend a relatively large part of their total income for food and clothing."

18. Stedman, A.D. Farm income, benefit payments and processing taxes; address... at the American association of agricultural college editors' meeting, University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota... July 25, 1934. 16pp., mimeogr. [Washington, D.C., U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Adjustment Admin. 1934] 1.94 Ad4Far

The following is quoted from pp.10-11:

"These [processing] taxes are essentially a conversion charge. They are not retained by the government as revenue, but are paid over virtually in entirety to the farmers.

"Efforts have been made by those fighting farm legislation to show that these processing taxes are paid twice. They tell farmers that they pay the tax, and then to consumers say the opposite. Some have even sought to propagate the fiction that, in states where processing plants are concentrated, the heavy collections show that these states are paying the tax. But collection of 19 million dollars wheat tax in Minnesota merely means that this is a point of collection -- that flour mills are concentrated in Minneapolis. People all over the nation, in every state and city where Minneapolis flour is used, pay their share of the tax. But the tax is collected through these great mills in Minneapolis. That is all. The cotton and wheat taxes are passed on to the consumer and the tendency of hog taxes to be passed on increases as production adjustment takes effect."

19. Tugwell, R.G. Nature and agricultural adjustment; address... at the annual Farm and home picnic, Brookings, S.D., ... June 29 [1934] 19pp., mimeogr. [Washington, D.C., U.S. Dept. Agr. 1934] 1.9 Ag7637

The following is quoted from pp.8-9:

"The theory of the processing tax is that, for the most part, it shall be collected from the first processor who, it is assured, will pass most of it along to the consumer. Thus the burden is taken off the farmer during the period of adjustment when the tax is in effect. Many farmers have been led to believe that they are paying the entire tax. But no one who knows the facts has seriously contended that the producer pays all the tax on any of the commodities upon which it is levied. The universal tendency is for the processor to pass it on. This is certainly true of wheat, since the domestic price is above the world price. It is likewise true of cotton because of the nature of the domestic demand and the inherent flexibility of the foreign demand. In the case of hogs, the packers, in some instances, have tried to pass the tax both ways - back to the producer and on to the consumer... I do not concede that the farmer is paying the processing tax on hogs, despite the continuous propaganda from the processing and distributing groups to the contrary."

20. U.S. Congress, House, Committee on agriculture. Amendments to Agricultural adjustment act. Hearing... Seventy-fourth Congress, first session on H.R.5585. February 26, 27, 28, March 1, 5, 6, 1935. Serial E. 372pp. Washington, U.S. Govt. Print. Off. 1935. 281.12 Un32Am

On p.117 Mr. Sydney Anderson, in reply to a question by Mr. Hope, stated that there had been a substantial decrease in consumption of wheat since the processing tax had been in effect as compared with the five years prior to that date.

Statement of George E. Putnam, economist, Swift & Co., pp.242-261. The following is quoted from p.253:

"The Chairman. Are you still of the opinion that the processing fee is charged back to the farmer and that he is getting a less price than he would if there were no processing fee and no adjustment?

"Mr. Putnam. I know it. That processing tax automatically reduces the price of hogs by the amount of the tax."

Statement of M.W. Thatcher, Washington representative Farmers' National Grain Corporation, pp.272-281. Included in this statement are six exhibits which show, respectively, "the defects in the present law with respect to an adequate parity price; the required method of determining the processing tax rate to effectuate parity income; the excessive seeded acreage in wheat and wheat production is evidence of the need of restricted and controlled production; the substantial increase to the farmer's annual wheat income account resulting from less production at higher prices and the benefit payments; the effect of the processing tax as related to the cost of the consumer's loaf of bread is insignificant; the speculative price of wheat during the drought year has varied in amount nearly as much as that of the processing tax rate now in effect; it is vital to the farmer that the act be amended by the passage of H.R.6199; and the effective domestic market may be expanded to use many million more acres in farm products when consumer-family earnings permit a normal diet."

Statement of Fred J. Lingham, representing Business Advisory and Planning Council of the Department of Commerce, pp.281-283. On p.282 he speaks of a table which gives an estimate of the farms in the various States and the cost of the processing tax by States. "... in the nine New England States the farmers themselves actually paid \$4 in processing tax for every \$1 received by the farmers in those States. The people in those nine northeastern States paid also \$50 for every \$1 of farm benefits received by them. The farmers in 14 States are paying more money in the cost of the processing tax than the total farm benefits received."

21. U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on agriculture and forestry. Agricultural emergency act to increase farm purchasing power. Hearings... Seventy-third Congress, first session on H.R.3835, an act to relieve the existing national economic emergency by increasing agricultural purchasing power. March 17, 24, 25, 27, and 28, 1933. 351pp. Washington, U.S. Govt. Print. Off. 1933. 281.12 Un3Ag

Contains discussion of the proposed processing taxes. See statement of William W. Woods, president of the Institute of American Meat Packers, pp.302-324, particularly p.306, Can Meat Processors Pay the Tax?.



22. U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on agriculture and forestry. Operations of Agricultural adjustment act. Hearings... Seventy-third Congress, second session on the operations of the Agricultural adjustment act. January 18, 1934. 46pp. Washington, U.S. Govt. Print. Off. 1934. 281:12 Un31Agr.

Contains the statement of Secretary Wallace, from which the following extracts are quoted:

"In the case of both wheat and cotton, processing taxes have been applied as directed in the act. In both these commodities the quantities processed were greatly increased prior to the imposition of the tax, and fell off for a while after the tax was imposed...

"It is as yet too early to tell exactly what the effect of the tax on consumption will be. The evidence seems quite clear in both cases, that practically the full amount of the tax has been passed on to the consumers and that the application of the tax has had little or no effect on prices paid to producers...

"Detailed considerations of the effect of the tax on consumption of these two commodities are now being prepared by the Department of Agriculture... The facts that we have compiled to date present convincing proof that processors have had little difficulty in passing the higher costs of commodities on to consumers, with either slight or no effect upon farm prices or consumption." - pp.4-5.

"Thus far, the hog-processing tax has been reflected somewhat more in the farm price of hogs than in either the spread or in the consumer's price of pork. Apparently there has been a slight increase in packers' margins and a material decrease in retailers' margins, so that that part of the tax has been absorbed in the total marketing spread. Soon, however, an improved situation should develop...

"The combined effect of smaller receipts of hogs at the market, due to the emergency hog-buying operation, and the increased ability of consumers to buy is expected to be reflected in advancing hog prices, so that a larger proportion of the processing tax will be passed on to the consumer." - p.15.

This statement was also issued by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture in mimeographed form.

23. U.S. Dept. of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. Achieving a balanced agriculture. 52pp. Washington, U.S. Govt. Print. Off. 1934. (G-20) 1.4 Ad4Ge

Processing taxes: what for and who pays them? pp.35-40. Subtopics are: supply and demand conditions govern, effect of tax on hog prices, tax money ends up in farmers' pockets, consumers' price information published, small rise to consumer means much to farmer, program depends upon tax.

"Experience with the processing taxes seems so far to indicate that in the case of cotton goods and of wheat flour the tax has been consistently paid by the consumer. ...

"In the case of hogs, on the other hand, the effect of the tax has been varied." - p.36.

24. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. Agricultural adjustment; a report of administration of the Agricultural adjustment act, May 1933 to February 1934. 393pp. Washington. 1934. 1.4 Ad4Ge

Incidence of Processing Taxes, ch.16, pp.219-260. Gives preliminary conclusions of studies of the incidence of the processing tax on wheat, cotton, and hogs being made by economists in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

25. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. Agricultural adjustment in 1934; a report of administration of the Agricultural adjustment act, February 15, 1934, to December 31, 1934. 456pp. Washington, D.C. 1935. 1.4 Ad4Ge

The cotton processing tax, pp.65-70 (effect of tax on consumption, wool, rayon, and silk increase more than cotton, effect on processing and distribution margins, additions to price made by processing taxes, regulations and certificates, commodities in competition with cotton). "Available information indicates that, generally speaking, the cotton-processing tax, like the cost of cotton and other costs, has been passed on in prices of cotton mill products and has been borne by the consumer and not by the processor." - p.68.

Effect of taxes on bread prices, p.83. "The processing tax is responsible for only about one-fourth of the average increase in the price of bread since April 1933, the month previous to the passage of the Agricultural Adjustment Act."

Processing taxes and their effects, ch.16, pp.231-239. "In most cases the processor, although he pays the tax, does not in reality bear the burden of the tax. The ultimate taxpayer - that is, the person who bears the tax burden - is the consumer, the person to whom the taxed commodity, bearing the tax with it, passes on from the processor for final use." - p.233.

26. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. Agricultural adjustment 1933 to 1935; a report of administration of the Agricultural adjustment act, May 12, 1933, to December 31, 1935. 322pp. Washington, Govt. Print. Off. 1936. (G-55) 1.4 Ad4Ge

For information relating to processing taxes see pp.110-111, 112, 113, 115, 137-143, 187-189, 224-226, 238-240, 263, 291-294.

The cotton processing tax, pp.137-143. See this section for effect of the tax on consumption, effect on manufacturing margins, additions to prices made by processing taxes, protection to processors by tax refunds and by compensatory taxes, effect of court injunctions on the collection of taxes and on the distribution of merchandise, and effect of the Supreme Court decision of January 6, 1936. "From the point of view of the consumer of textile fabrics, assuming that all of the processing tax was passed on to him, the percentage of tax paid approximated 6 percent of the retail price of sheets, 5 percent of overalls, and 3 percent of the retail price of shirts."

Tobacco processing taxes, pp.187-189. "In the case of cigar-leaf tobacco, the Secretary of Agriculture found, from evidence



presented at hearings on September 8, 1933, that the full statutory rate of 6 cents per pound would tend to result in the accumulation of surplus stocks or the reduction of farm price. It was further found that a rate of 3 cents per pound would not cause such results... From evidence presented at public hearings on November 9, 1934, held at the request of members of the industry, it was found that the processing tax at prevailing rates was causing such a reduction in the amount of tobacco used in the manufacture of all chewing-tobacco products as to result in the accumulation of surplus stocks or the depression of farm prices. Effective February 1, 1935, processing-tax rates on all types of tobacco used in the manufacture of chewing products were reduced." - p.188.

27. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. Basic questions and answers on agricultural adjustment. 2 pts., mimeogr. Washington, D.C. [1935?] 1.94 Ad4B

The following is quoted from sections of Who pays the processing tax, pp.8-9:

"Supply and demand conditions determine who pays the processing tax on a given commodity... When the demand is inelastic, the processing tax is likely to be paid by the consumer, since he will continue to buy even if the whole tax is added to the price of the goods.

"When the demand is elastic, the consumer may pay less than the full amount of the tax if the same quantity of the product is put on the market as before. In a case of this kind, the producer and the distributor will each try to make the other absorb the tax.

"While supplies of a commodity continue to be excessive, the processing tax on it is likely to be passed back to the producer in the form of prices lower than they would be if shipments were smaller.

"Experience with processing taxes indicates that, in the case of cotton goods and wheat flour, the taxes have been consistently paid by the consumer. These are non-perishable commodities...

"On hogs the effect of the tax has been varied, according to the extent of supplies sent to market. For pork products the demand is highly elastic. Consumers buy more when prices are low and less when prices rise...

"From January to March, 1934, the tax appeared to be generally paid by consumers...

"Twice, immediately following the raising of the tax on February 1 and on March 1, packers absorbed a part of the tax, for they were unable to raise wholesale prices of pork as fast as the price of hogs, as well as the tax, was going up.

"During most of the period after processing taxes on hogs were levied, farmers received more in price alone than they got for hogs in the corresponding period a year before and, in addition to that, they got their benefit payments."

28. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. Impounded processing taxes and processors' profits. Text of letter of Secretary of Agriculture Wallace to Senator George W. Norris. Relating to processing taxes outstanding, profits of processors, and operating and profit margins of processors. With accompanying report by L.H. Bean. 7pp., mimeogr. [Washington, D.C. Feb. 25, 1936.] 1.94 Ad4Imp

Hogs, wheat, and cotton are the commodities dealt with.

Also published as Senate Document 178 of the 74th Congress, second session, with title, Refunds of Processing Taxes.

29. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration, Consumers' counsel. Processing taxes. How much are they? Who pays them? Where does the money go? Why are they necessary? Consumers' Guide 2(15):3-5, 27. May 20, 1935. 1.94 Ad422C  
"Ultimately, of course, the consumer pays the tax in the sense that all costs that go into making and marketing a product are included in the price he pays. Because the eight commodities taxed are bought by most consumers who have any money at all to spend, most consumers are, in this sense, share-payers of the taxes" - p.4.
30. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration, Consumers' counsel. Who pays the processing taxes? Consumers' Guide 1(15):1-7. Apr. 9, 1934. 1.94 Ad422C  
Wheat, cotton and hogs are the commodities considered.
31. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration, Division of information. The processing tax. 12pp. [Washington, U.S. Govt. Print. Off.] September 1935. (G-41) 1.4 Ad4Ge  
Suggested references, p.12.  
Contents: I. Are processing taxes necessary to adjust agriculture?; II. The processing tax and how it operates; III. How processing taxes have helped farmers; IV. The effect of processing taxes on consumers; V. Arguments concerning processing taxes.  
"It is estimated that the cotton processing tax has cost the American people an average of 93 cents per person per year, or less than 8 cents per month...  
"The processing tax on wheat has not been borne by the millers but has been passed on to the consumer. The tax has not put wheat prices out of line with prices of other products and has decreased consumption little if at all. Since it does not apply to exported products, it has not hurt American wheat exports." - p.7.  
"Whether farmers or consumers are paying the processing tax on hogs depends upon the sense in which the word is used. Farmers rather than consumers may be said to pay the tax in that its imposition, in the absence of any adjustment of supply, does not cause consumers to pay more per pound for pork. Since this is true, the tax may be said to reduce the price per pound of hogs received by farmers. But in another sense consumers rather than farmers pay the hog processing tax. It is by means of the tax that the adjustment of supply is brought about, and the price per pound is increased." - p.8.
32. Wallace, B.A. The processing tax: the farmer's tariff. Ohio State Univ., Col. Agr., Dept. Rural Econ. Current Econ. Topics for the Ohio Farmer. Circ. 1, 2pp., mimeogr. Columbus [n.d.] 281.9 Ch32C  
Why middlemen oppose the processing tax, p.2.



33. Wallace, H.A. New frontiers. 314pp. New York, Reynal & Hitchcock [1934]  
We Tax Bread and Meat, ch.XVI, pp.211-222. See also pp.175-186,  
196-197.
34. Wallace, H.A. Statement.... to Senate Committee on agriculture and  
forestry, January 18, 1934. 4Opp., mimeogr. [Washington, D.C.,  
U.S. Dept. Agr.] 1934.. 1.9 Ag8636  
Also printed in U.S. Cong., Senate, Committee on Agriculture and  
Forestry. Operations of Agricultural adjustment act. Hearings.  
1934. [q.v.]
35. Whitaker, D.R. Why stock growers association opposes processing tax -  
Holds that it would react against growers but believes purchases of  
beef for relief would help. Wyoming Stockman-Farmer 39(12):7.  
December 1933. 6 W992
36. Wilcox, W.W. AAA as a force in recovery: further considerations. Jour.  
Farm Econ. 17(3):449-458. August 1935. 280.8 J822  
"It seems fairly evident that to the extent that the consumer  
pays the processing tax it is the consumer of 'necessaries' - bread,  
flour, cotton goods, and pork products." - p.451.  
"It is estimated on the basis of certain assumptions that the  
average nonagricultural gainfully employed person may have contributed  
\$8.60 toward payment of the processing tax in a 12-months period." -  
p.453. A footnote on p.453 explains how this estimate and others  
made were arrived at.

#### COTTON

37. B., C.C. Some measures of development in cotton textiles. Brown Univ.  
and Providence Chamber Com., Providence, R.I. Brown Business Serv.  
11(10):41-45, tables. June 25, 1935.  
"The movement of the [cotton-textile] industry to the South, in-  
creased competition from other fabrics, some of which is due to  
changes in consumers' tastes, some to new technical development, and  
some to the increase in the price of cotton goods made necessary by  
the cotton processing tax and NRA code wage and hours provisions,  
and... foreign competition" are discussed.
38. Clark, O.M. Some pros and cons of the cotton processing tax. Clemson  
Agr. Col., Ext. Circ. 142, 16pp. Clemson, S.C. 1935.  
In this circular "the statements in the bold face type are state-  
ments frequently made in newspapers and elsewhere relative to the  
cotton processing tax. The remaining parts of the several sections  
are discussions of these statements." Several statements have to  
do with the question as to who pays the processing tax.
39. Cobb, C.A. The farmers' tariff. Address... over the Dixie network of  
the Columbia Broadcasting system at 7:15 p.m. (E.S.T.), Saturday,  
April 27, 1935. 7pp., mimeogr. [Washington, D.C.] U.S. Dept. Agr.,  
Agr. Adjustment Admin. 1935. 1.94 C82Fa

A defense of the processing tax, including extracts from statements of Congressman Hope which show that "the processing tax does no real injury to the textile industry."

Reprinted in Oil Miller and Cotton Ginner 46(3):4-6. May 1935.

An unsigned article in the American Wool & Cotton Reporter, v.49, no.24, June 13, 1935, pp.1, 37-39, 42, entitled Defending the Process Tax, takes issue with Mr. Cobb's address.

40. Comer, Donald. Spinner doubts wisdom of processing tax and why. Encroachment of substitutes and Japanese competition stressed. Cotton Trade Jour. (8th Internatl. ed.) 15(20):120-121,131,136,149, illus. 1934-1935. Folio 3 72.8 C8214

The following is quoted from p.131:

"The processing tax plan burdens cotton for home consumption \$105,000,000 at the source. This added cost to the raw material of a manufacturer cannot escape being pyramided through the progress from mill to selling house, bleachery, printer, garment manufacturer, jobber, and retailer. It has been estimated by cost accountants that this increases the cost of a work shirt 11 per cent, and a pair of overalls 20 per cent. If this estimate is correct, this means that the traffic has not only had to bear the needed \$105,000,000, but has had to pass on to the consumer many more millions because of the results of the pyramiding."

41. Comstock, Alzada. Revolt of the cotton textiles. The mill owners' case against the processing tax, and what New England needs. Barron's 15(20):7,10. May 20, 1935. 284.8 B27

"Supplementing a recent review in Barron's of the New England cotton-textile industry's battle of protest against the Administration, it is here shown that Washington's answer, the newly-formed Cabinet Committee, has not provided the solution to the industry's problems." - Editorial note.

A letter from Mr. Sloan to Senator David I. Walsh is quoted, part of which follows:

"...although the mills have not been able to add to the selling price of the goods the entire amount of the tax, the tax combined with the higher price of manufacture necessitated by the cotton-textile code and increased cost of raw material have raised the price of cotton goods to a level out of line with their customary relationship to general commodity prices."

42. Consider canceling process tax on bedding. Government holds hearing at Memphis. Bedding Manfrs. 30(6):36, 38, 40, 42. July 1935.

This is a report of a hearing held at Memphis, June 17, by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration to ascertain "whether the payment of the processing tax on cotton has prevented, is preventing, or will prevent, the use of cotton as a filling material for mattresses, pillows, pads, and cushions, within the provisions of Section 15(a) of the Act."

J.R. Hass testified, among other things, that "addition of the processing tax inordinately increases the cost of the mattress and seriously impeded its sale." A.T. Forwood testified that "it was practically impossible to get dealers to pay the tax or the higher price necessitated by absorption of the tax."

The article contains summaries of other statements.



43. The cotton processing tax. Cotton Digest 7(26):7-8. Apr. 6, 1935.  
286.82 C822

Based on a statement of Secretary Wallace on March 27, 1935, expressing the views of the AAA on the processing tax and explaining the effect of the tax on the textile industry and the cotton cloth market, and on a statement of G.H. Dorr, contradicting some of Mr. Wallace's statements.

44. Cox, A.B. Cotton. Tex. Business Rev. 8(7):4-5. Aug. 30, 1934. 280.8 T7312

The first section of this article is on the cotton situation, including the processing tax. "This tax levied at the source must necessarily be pyramided through the manufacturing processes, the wholesaling, and the retailing to the consumer. The tax not only means higher prices for cotton goods, but, what is even more significant, higher prices relative to competing materials such as silk, rayon, jute, and paper. The result is the substitution of these materials for cotton and the drying up of outlets for cotton."

45. Cox, A.B. Cotton. Tex. Business Rev. 8(10):4-5. Nov. 28, 1934. 280.8 T7312

The following is quoted from a paragraph recommending the elimination of the processing tax.

"Cotton growers and manufacturers need expanding markets. Elimination of the processing tax will expand the market for cotton goods. The cotton processing tax should be eliminated because it is the worst form of a sales tax in that it is levied on the raw material and must be pyramided through the various stages of manufacture as well as through commission selling, wholesaling, and retailing. It is heaviest on those least able to bear it. It is based on weight so that it falls heaviest on the coarse heavy goods and these are the ones the poor people buy. Durable goods industries buy very large quantities of heavy cotton goods and yarn. The cotton processing tax is a tax on their recovery, and their recovery is essential to national recovery."

46. Cox, A.B. Importance of costs and services in the cotton industry. Cotton Trade Jour. 14(21):3, chart, table. May 26, 1934. Folio 3 72.8 C8214

The third of a series of articles.

Table shows average costs per bale of marketing cotton. Chart shows a case study of the distribution of gingham cost, before and after code and process tax, in cents per yard.

47. Creekmore, E.F. Processing tax not to blame. Okla. Cotton Grower 15(8):  
1. Apr. 15, 1935. Folio 3 72.8 Ok4

Also in Tex.Co-op News 15(5):1,4. May 1, 1935.

The author states that a study made by the American Cotton Cooperative Association shows the processing tax is not responsible for increased imports of cotton goods from Japan, or for decreased exports.

48. [Dana, Philip.] Washington hears Philip Dana of Westbrook. Fibre and Fabric 88(2622):6-7, tables. May 4, 1935. 304.8 F44

Text of a statement by a member of the Maine delegation before the President's Special Cabinet Committee hearing on textile New England,

in which he gave the viewpoint of Maine mills on the processing tax, which has "proved itself to be a decided burden to the mills in Maine", the wage differential between North and South, the effect of textile imports, the effect of overproduction and "the obvious need for production control".

49. [Durham, T.R.] Processing tax bulletin sent to Southern hosiery mills. Textile Bull. 48(22):8. Aug. 1, 1935. 304.8 So32  
Text of a bulletin "sent to hosiery mills in the South by... [the] executive secretary of the Southern Hosiery Manufacturers' Association" discussing the course of action to be followed by manufacturers pending a Supreme Court decision on the processing tax on cotton.  
"The ultimate consumer has actually borne the burden, and there is no conceivable way that refunds could be equally distributed, even though the tax may have been illegally levied."
50. Field, E.G. An example of mill profit trends under the NRA and AAA. Cotton (Atlanta) 97(11):30, table. November 1933. 304.8 C823  
"An actual case, taken from a southern mill's records, of the effect on market, cost and profit on a standard sheeting construction, during the first several months of operation under the cotton-textile code and the cotton processing tax."  
"Since the code went into effect and the processing tax has applied, there has been a continuous decline in the profit to the mill, and now the loss is running to a substantial figure."
51. George, W. F. Action of cotton processing tax plan makes farmer pay the tax. South. Cult. 91(10):16. Oct. 1, 1933. 6 So84  
"The net result is that the processing tax is being paid by the farmer both in the reduced market price of his cotton and in the increased cost of cotton goods which he buys and consumes in large quantities."
52. [Gossett, B.B.] Gossett gives reasons for closing mills. Textile Bull. 48(7):4,28. Apr. 18, 1935. 304.8 So32  
Statement of the president of the Chadwick-Hoskins Mills telling why two of the plants of the company have been closed for an indefinite period. One of the reasons is said to be the burden placed on the mills by the processing tax.  
"As to the processing tax, I may say, in theory, when it was levied, the mills were supposed to pass it on to the public. As a practical matter, however, the mills have never been able to pass it on in full and in recent months the industry has had to absorb this tax as a part of its cost just as much so as the many other kinds of taxes imposed on industry."
53. Hood, E.N. That multi-headed process tax. Boston Chamber Com. Boston Business 26(4):4. April 1935. LC  
The effect of the tax on the textile industry.  
"Theoretically, of course, this tax while paid by the mills in the first instance is supposed to be eventually collected from the consumers of the mill's product. Practically, however, it has been



impossible for the mills to add to the mill's selling price a sufficient amount to cover this tax, and as a practical result the tax has, in large measure, been absorbed by the mills creating an impossible burden for the mills to bear."

54. Hutchison, C.E. The cotton processing tax. Carolinas 4(2):4,10. September 1935. 110 C22

"The cotton manufacturers have always felt that this tax was and is wholly unjust, as the other two items due to governmental action are just as much a tax, except it is not paid to the Government in cash but is absorbed in the cost of manufacturing, and put a heavy load on the industry of more than they could bear without the processing tax. The result has been anything but satisfactory, and naturally the industry feels that it has been unjustly discriminated against, inasmuch as there has not been another leading industry in the whole United States that has been so treated."

55. Kendrick, M.S. The processing taxes and some problems raised by them. Jour. Farm Econ. 17(2):307-317. May 1935. 280.8 J822

Among the problems discussed is the problem of the incidence of the tax.

In the discussion which follows, pp.317-320, Mr. Lawrence Myers examines, particularly, the cotton processing tax. "Clearly," he says, "the cotton processing tax has not been borne by cotton mills."

56. Law, J.A. A mill executive discusses textiles under the recovery program. Cotton (Atlanta) 97(12):27-28,42. December 1933. 304.8 C823

Digest of a paper presented at the meeting of the southeastern division of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States in Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 20-21.

See p.28 for the writer's statement of the effect of the processing tax on the textile industry and on the passing of the tax back to the farmer "as the largest buyer of cotton goods."

57. Learned, E.P. The cotton textile situation. Harvard Business Rev. 14(1): 29-44. autumn 1935. 280.8 H262

The writer analyzes the cotton textile situation in order to find out if the cotton processing tax, the Japanese imports, the level of wages and the hours of work, or some other cause or set of causes is responsible for the conuition of the industry.

The cotton processing tax, pp.29-35. The following is quoted from p.35:

"Politically, the tax has helped the farmer group at the apparent expense of consumers, mill workers, and textile operators. On the other hand, the tax may have contributed to the reestablishment of balance between agriculture and industry in the country. Before the manufacturing population condemns these taxes, they should consider the long history of protection for their industries.

"It is not the purpose of this article to support or to condemn processing taxes as such, but it is clearly fair to conclude that the cotton processing tax has caused some difficulties for the industry, but that these have been exaggerated. The removal of the tax, if accomplished, will not correct the problem of excess capacity or lead to a new and sound inventory policy."

58. Lewis, K.P. Processing tax is unfair levy on cotton textiles. Textile Bull. 48(4):3-4,34. Mar. 28, 1935. 304.8 So32  
"Statement before the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives of the United States," by the President of the Erwin Cotton Mills Company, Durham, N.C.  
The following statement is taken from p.3:  
"What has been done has been to put, for practical purposes, a sales tax on cotton goods, which has increased the cost to the consumer, driven the price out of line with that of other commodities, fallen most heavily on the consumer of inexpensive cotton goods, and tended to cut down the consumption of cotton goods and so reduce the product of the farm."
59. Loper, R.E. "Textile costs under the N.R.A." 8pp., mimeogr. [Pinehurst, N.C., 1933] 304 [L]  
"Address... at the annual meeting of the North Carolina Cotton manufacturers' association, inc., November 17, 1933, Pinehurst, North Carolina."  
Have also 3 page summary of address.  
Includes a statement comparing present prices of overalls and shirts with earlier prices to show the results of increased costs due to NRA and processing taxes.
60. McCampbell, Leavelle. Federal government owes processors over \$95,000,000. Cotton Digest (Texas) 8(26):6. Apr. 4, 1936. 286.8 C822  
Also in Textile Bull. 50(5):24-25. Apr. 2, 1936; Cotton [Atlanta] 100(4):98. April 1936.  
The writer argues that the processors of cotton "absorbed the greater part of the tax."
61. McCuen, D.E. Where does the burden fall? Cotton Digest 7(29):14. Apr. 27, 1935. 286.8 C822  
A Greenville, S.C., cotton broker, former president of the American Cotton Shippers Association, analyzes the effects of the processing tax on the cotton textile industry.
62. Marchant, T.M. Address of the president. Amer. Cotton Manfrs. Assoc. Proc.(1934) 38:26-51. 304.9 Am3  
The industry is surveyed with special reference to the effect of the N.R.A. code, processing taxes, labor, and freight rates.  
"The levying of the Processing Tax has been an extra added cost which by this time has reverted itself back to the farm to further increase the price of the manufacturers' raw materials and this has increased the consumers' price." - p.39.  
"Few other industries have had to face code adoption and the application of a processing tax at almost the same moment. Only a few, in fact, have had the extra added burden of processing tax. Therefore, in studying the price structure, our consumers have been unable to adjust their thinking to the influence of this factor upon the price structure.  
"Another important element of these unusual influences has been



the fact that the very processing tax which cotton mills are obliged to pay is designed to finance methods whereby the basic price of a cotton mill's raw material shall be artificially advanced, with the result that raw material and prices irrespective of the price fixing, have experienced unusual and drastic increases during the past year." - pp.43-44.

63. [Marchant, T.M.] Cotton processing tax puts great burden on mills. Textile Bull. 45(13):2-5, 18. Nov. 30, 1933. 304.8 So32  
Address at meeting of the Print Cloth Group by the president of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association, in Greenville, S.C., Nov. 23, 1933.
64. Marshall, Hunter, Jr. Eighteen months under the processing tax. Carolinas 3(4):25-26. March 1935.  
Contains a section on the effect of the processing tax on the textile industry. Includes a resolution passed by the North Carolina Cotton Manufacturers Association asking that the processing tax be removed.
65. Merritt, C.L. Analysis of the processing tax. Cotton Digest 7(29):11-12. Apr. 27, 1935. 286.8 C822  
The writer states in summary, "The processing tax has the effect of decreasing consumption of American cotton; it destroys or impairs the market for the lower grades of cotton; it interferes with the normal operation of the cotton mill industry through the impounding of working capital and makes the cotton industry a tax collecting agency; and, lastly, since it is a sales tax imposed on a necessity of life, being highest on the types of cloth used most by those who can least afford to pay it without any compensating advantage, there can be no justification for its continuance."
66. Moore, Frederick. The processing tax on cotton is direct levy on mills and employees. Textile Bull. 47(25):8-9, 58-60, tables. Feb. 21, 1935. 304.8 So32  
Certain cost figures from a survey of textile costs by A.W. Rucker are given to show percentage of the cost that goes to labor and to the processing tax.
67. Moore, Frederick. Remove the processing tax. The textile industry demands it -- justice requires it. Here are more proofs that it is unsound. Textile Bull. 48(5):3, 24, 25. Apr. 11, 1935. 304.8 So32  
In this article the writer "explains the burden that the processing tax has placed upon the textile industry."
68. Moore, Frederick. Will Secretary Wallace listen to reason? Textile Bull. 48(7):17, 25. Apr. 18, 1935. 304.8 So32  
Presents "three strong arguments for the total removal" of the processing tax on cotton, and urges the AAA to change the method and form of collecting the tax. One of the arguments is that "the tax forces the price of textile goods approximately 16 per cent above the current economic price level of other commodities, creating thereby unequal exchange values and curtailment almost to the extent of the tax."

69. The more abundant life! Amer. Wool & Cotton Reporter 49(20):1, 37-38.

May 16, 1935. 304.8 W88

Discussion of the effects of the processing tax, and other features of Government policy on the textile industry.

70. New England council, Industrial department. Summary of survey of the current situation of the New England cotton textile industry made for the Chamber of commerce committee on industrial conditions in New England. 15pp., mimeogr. Boston, Mass. Apr. 12, 1935. 281.372[Ne]

This summary is based on returns of questionnaires by 87 companies, representing 105 mills or approximately one-third of New England's cotton goods production. A summary of the replies on the question of the effects of the processing tax is given on pp.2-4, from which the following is quoted: "The majority of the manufacturers who replied say that they have had to absorb from 25 to 100 per cent. of the tax. This is because of the extremely competitive situation prevailing due to production being in excess of demand, to the inroads into the domestic, also the foreign markets by Japanese and other foreign producers of cotton textiles, to the increasing resistance of consumers generally to higher prices for cotton goods, and the competition of other fabrics."

71. The Q.E.D. of cotton. Amer. Wool & Cotton Reporter 49(32):[1], 37-38, 42.

Aug. 8, 1935. 304.8 W88

The effects of the processing tax and crop curtailment are discussed. "Unrestricted production of cotton with a 10¢ loan" and a federal sales tax in place of the processing tax are advocated.

"As the act operates the consumer is paying several times the processing tax."

72. Richards, H.I. Cotton and the AAA. 389pp. Washington, D.C., The Brookings Institution. 1936. (Inst. Econ. Brookings Inst. Pub. no.66)

281.372 R39

See subject, Taxes, Processing and related, in the index.

73. Richards, H.I. Cotton under the Agricultural adjustment act. Developments up to July 1934. Brookings Inst., Pamphlet Series No.15, 129pp. Washington. 1934. 280.9 B79

"This is the fourth in a series of pamphlets issued as preliminary publications in connection with the Institute of Economics' 'Concurrent Study of the Operation of the Agricultural Adjustment Act.' Like the previous numbers in the pamphlet series, it restricts itself practically to a narrative and descriptive statement of what has happened in one particular commodity field. While this includes some statement of results which have followed from certain of the lines of activity undertaken under the adjustment program, no attempt is made at this time to assess the merits of the adjustment program as such or to appraise it in terms of its beneficial or harmful effect upon cotton producers, cotton consumers, traders, manufacturers, or other interested groups. This task is deferred to a subsequent publication."

Processing and compensatory taxes, pp.100-104.



74. Ryan, J.M. The processing tax and cotton waste. Com. and Finance 23(39): 794. Sept. 26, 1934. 286.8 C737

"The effects which the processing tax has had on cotton waste have been many and varied.. For a three months' period immediately following the effective date of the processing tax law, we saw the percentage grades of waste (Comber and Strips) rise to the highest basis in the history of the waste business. Many mills which had never consumed a bale of waste before were using it as a substitute for cotton with the result that waste immediately discounted in price its relative value to the taxed cotton."

75. Sanders, J.T. The national significance of the agricultural processing taxes. Natl. Tax Assoc. Proc.(1935) 28:163-180. 284.59 N21

The writer's purpose in this paper is "to deal with the nature of the agricultural disparity which the tax was intended to correct, to inquire into the tendency toward a permanent unbalanced relationship between agricultural and urban industry, and the necessity for permanent machinery for correcting this lack of balance between farming and other industry."

The following is quoted from pp.174 and 176:

"Cotton mills object to the tax, on the basis that it is a special subsidy to farmers, most of which they claim they pay. Also they claim that it puts them to a decided disadvantage in foreign competition, and at the same time encourages the use of cotton substitutes at home, because of added costs of finished goods, thus reducing their volume of sales. To the writer, although to a degree each of these claims is true, they are not significant objections to the tax.

"It is somewhat ludicrous for cotton mills, which have so long received special subsidies, in the form of high tariffs, to complain of the cotton farmers' recent subsidy. All cotton mills, during the fiscal year ending with June, paid 121 million dollars of processing tax, this being the maximum possible costs of the tax to them. Although they claim they absorb most of the tax, they in reality absorb very little of it, as is shown by the margin between their raw and finished goods prices, before and after the tax was placed on them."

76. [Sloan, G.A.] Taxes paid by textile mills. Textile Bull. 46(25):3, 6. Aug. 23, 1934. 304.8 So82

This is a radio address, which is in the form of an interview by Edward C. Fielder, executive secretary of the Public Affairs Council.

See p.6 for discussion of the processing tax. "Unlike most taxes, the burden is proportionately heavier on consumers of coarser and cheaper fabrics because of their greater cotton poundage content."

77. Stewart, A.D. Why the Agricultural adjustment administration. Miss. Co-op News 6(9):1,4. April 1935. 72.8 M69

The author holds that if the processing tax is unfair, the protective tariff is also unfair.

"Mill operators in the United States do not pay the processing tax."

78. Talmadge, A.A. New England grins but finds it hard to bear. Cotton Trade Jour. (8th international ed.) 15(20):128. 1934-1935.  
Gives reasons for New England cotton manufacturers' opposition to the processing tax. One of the reasons given is that "the entire processing tax materially raises the cost of cotton goods at retail and thereby curtails the volume of consumption."
79. Teuton, F.L. Take a good long look at this -- and see how the processing tax works. South. Agr. 65(8):7. August 1935. 6 So83  
A popular article in which the statement is made that "the tax is eventually passed on to the consumers of the taxed goods." An illustration shows the maximum amount of the processing tax which should be added to several articles of cotton clothing.
80. Textile World Analyst. What has happened in textiles under codes and taxes. Textile World 83(13):2189, chart. December 1933. 304.8 T315  
"The trend of general textile activity, based on total monthly consumption of raw material, from 1929 through October of this year." Charts and accompanying explanations show that "textile production has not fallen off to the extent generally believed, but the chances for a profit in the cotton division at least have faded away."
81. To tax the South for the West. Proposal to put compensatory tax on cotton seed oil in the interest of hog lard full of dynamite. Unity and not division is what is needed. Tex. Weekly 9(48):4-6. Dec. 2, 1933.  
Lists members of a committee appointed to organize opposition to proposed compensatory tax on cottonseed oil and quotes from a letter illustrating how processing taxes tend to check consumption.
82. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. The cotton processing tax. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Adjustment Admin. (Commodity Inform. Ser.) Cotton Leaflet no.2, 4pp., illus. 1934. 1.4 C82Co  
Consists of questions and answers concerning the cotton processing tax: what it is; why it is necessary; and effects of the tax.  
Question 3 and answer are as follows:  
"Question 3. Who pays the tax and how much is it?  
"Answer. In the case of cotton, the tax is passed on to consumers and borne by them as a part of the price of cotton products sold to them. The Agricultural Adjustment Act provides that the rate of tax shall be determined on the basis of the difference between the fair exchange value of cotton (exchange value, 1909-14) and the average farm price of cotton as of the date the tax becomes effective. This rate is 4.2 cents per pound net weight."
83. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. The cotton processing tax. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Adjustment Admin. Cotton Production Adjustment no.15, pp.1-10. Washington, D.C., Sept. 13, 1934. 1.94 C82Cop  
Effect of the processing tax upon cotton producers and upon consumers of cotton goods, pp.8-9.



84. U.S. President, 1933 - (Roosevelt). Cotton textile industry. Message from the President of the United States transmitting a report on the conditions and problems of the cotton textile industry, made by the cabinet committee appointed by him. U.S. Cong., 74th, 1st Sess., Senate Doc. 126, 154pp. 1935. 304 Un34

This report is in three main parts: Findings and recommendations of Cabinet committee; Summary of report of subcommittee; Report of subcommittee.

For material on the cotton processing tax, the discontinuance of which during the period of economic emergency is not recommended, see pages V, 17-19, 137-143.

The following paragraph is quoted from pp.140-141:

"Whether manufacturers absorb all or part of the cotton-processing tax does not lend itself to a simple proof or disproof, but the evidence indicates that in general the cotton-processing tax is passed on by processors. In some instances it is probably absorbed before it reaches the ultimate consumer. This would seem to be the case, for example, in automobiles, where the amount of the processing tax on the cotton used would constitute so small a part of the total cost of manufacturing an automobile that it would be impossible to determine whether or not it was taken into account in the selling price of the finished article. Likewise, the processing tax with respect to belting and many other articles used in industry is probably lost before the ultimate consumer is reached. In some instances the tax may be absorbed by the cotton processor, as for example in such items as thread, the price of which tends to remain the same from year to year, irrespective of the level of cotton prices or other costs. In general, however, prices of manufactured cotton articles tend to follow current competitive costs. Since the cotton-processing tax is a uniform cost per pound on all cotton entering manufacture, it does not give one mill a competitive advantage over other mills. This tends to insure its being passed on to buyers of cotton articles. An examination of gross manufacturing margins, which have been considered more in detail in the section on prices and margins, indicates that at the time the processing tax became effective processors increased the prices of their products materially and the prices in existing contracts were increased to allow for the tax."

85. Waugh, F.V., Farrington, C.C., and Cooper, M.R. Recent developments in the domestic cotton textile industry. Prepared in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. 51pp., mimeogr. Washington, D.C., U.S. Dept. Agr., Bur. Agr. Econ., September 15, 1933. 1.9 Ec733Rd

The present study "was directed particularly at the question of whether the increased costs under the N.R.A. code and the processing tax on cotton had caused or would, during future months, cause consumption of cotton goods to decline and to remain at low levels... A considerable part of this report is devoted to an analysis of the present situation in the industry in comparison with previous years, including an analysis of spinning and weaving mill activity, sales and stocks, as well as conditions in the garment and other secondary manufacturing establishments, and conditions in the wholesale trade."

"The real effect of the processing tax and the code on textile industry can not be judged until it is possible to determine the reaction of the general public to the higher retail prices of finished goods. So far there is little basis for determining this reaction and it may not be fully apparent for several months."

86. Williamson, N.C. Processing tax farmer's answer to high tariffs. Tex. Grower and Valley Farmer 8(3):3. June 1933.

Several extracts follow:

"The processing tax is not paid by the cotton spinner...

"The processing<sup>tax</sup>/does not and cannot, have any influence on foreign markets nor can it work to the detriment of our domestic textile industry...

"If those who oppose the processing taxes feel that it places too great a burden upon the American consumer, they should note that a reduction in the prices paid by farmers for manufactured products would result in lowering of the parity price level."

#### DAIRY PRODUCTS

87. Holman, C.W. Processing tax, even exchange of money. Natl. Butter & Cheese Jour. 25:26. Apr. 10, 1934. 286.85 B98Bu

Includes a table which shows processing taxes and benefit payments under the proposed dairy adjustment program.

"The dairymen themselves will be forced to pay the tax because consumers will not pay a higher price without reducing their purchases in the same proportion, and distributors and manufacturers will not decrease their margins of operation until they are forced to do so. The net results of this is that, just as in the corn-hog program, the farmer pays the tax."

#### HOGS

88. Clifford, J.C. What nullification of processing taxes means to meat packers. Earnings of leading companies vary, but prospect brightens for all. Mag. Wall St. 57(8):460-461,486. Feb. 1, 1936.

Includes the following statement on p.461: "There can thus be no question but that by far the greater part of all processing taxes have been paid by the consuming public."

89. Fitzgerald, D.A. Corn and hogs under the Agricultural adjustment act. Developments up to March 1934. 107pp. Washington. The Brookings Institution. 1934. (Brookings Inst. Pamph. Ser. no.12) 280.9 B79

Institute of Economics. Concurrent Study of the Operation of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, no.1.

Financing the corn-hog program, pp.77-85.

90. Fitzgerald, D.A. Livestock under the AAA. 384pp. Washington, D.C. The Brookings Institution. 1935. (Inst. Econ. Brookings Inst. Pub. no.65) 281.340 F57

Early Results of the AAA Livestock Program, ch. XII, pp.237-275. See also subject, Taxes, Processing and Related, in the index.



91. Flood, F. A. and Wing, DeW. C. Who pays processing tax? *Prairie Farmer* 106(4):10, 24. Feb. 17, 1934. 6 p883

"A review of some of the facts connected with the price behavior and the market since November does not support a conclusion that the producer pays the tax" in the case of hogs. Some of the facts referred to are pointed out.

92. [Institute of American meat packers] Pork prices and processing tax. *Natl. Provisioner* 89(23):23. Dec. 2, 1933. 286.85 N21

The following extracts are taken from this editorial:

"History of the packing industry's earnings in the post-war years precluded any possibility of absorption even of the minimum tax by the processor. The only alternative, if the purpose of the act were to be realized, was to pass the equivalent of the tax on to the consumer..."

"In view of this [dull demand and price] situation it is not surprising that packers have been unable to pass on to the consumer the processing tax, and so to maintain the price of live hogs for the benefit of the producer."

93. Roberts, R. H. Economic effects of the corn-hog program in Iowa. *Iowa Jour. Hist. and Politics* 34(2):144-171. April 1936. 134.8 Io9

A few extracts from this article follow:

"The first half of 1934 did not show the 20 per cent rise in prices to farmers that would normally be expected to occur in response to such reductions, because during the months that the price should have been rising, the processing tax had the effect of depressing the prices received by farmers for hogs." - p.148.

"From the time the processing tax was instituted on November 5, 1933, it tended to depress the price of the live hogs marketed by nearly its full amount." - p.155.

"The full effect of the \$2.25 processing tax was felt in 1935 upon live hog prices except to the extent that packers absorbed from 5 to 10 per cent of it in competition for the small supplies of hogs and considerably more at the end of 1935, in anticipation of its elimination by court action." - p.163.

"The corn processing tax of 5 cents per bushel did not operate to reduce the price of corn received by farmers, but rather was passed on to consumers." - p.169.

94. Sarle, C.F. Affidavit of Charles F. Sarle [on the processing tax on hogs and the corn-hog production program] 7pp., illus. mimeogr. [Washington, D.C., U.S. Dept. Agr. 1934?]

The following paragraph is quoted from p.3:

"It was the opinion of the livestock economists of the Department of Agriculture, who had made an intensive study of the economic forces which determine hog prices, that any substantial increase in the price of hog products to the consumer by means of a processing tax would result in an excessive accumulation of stocks of hog products in the hands of packers, an accumulation of hogs ready for market on farms which could not be sold, and a substantial decrease in the farm price of hogs, unless consumer purchasing power were to advance a corresponding amount or the supply of hogs coming to market were to be reduced to an amount consumers would take at the increased price."

The writer argued against any reduction in the rate of processing tax at that time, which he said, "would tend to defeat the declared policy of the Act."

Accompanied by a chart which shows how the relation of the price of corn to the price of hogs creates the hog cycle.

95. Shepherd, Geoffrey. The incidence of the AAA processing tax on hogs. Jour. Farm Econ. 17(2):321-334. May 1935. 280.8 J822

Paper read at the 25th annual meeting of the American Farm Economic Association, Dec. 28, 1934. Published as Journal Paper No.J-251 of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, Project No.383.

The subject is dealt with under two main topics: the direct incidence of the tax, and the incidence of the effects of the tax, after they have had time to work out. In the first instance it is concluded that the farmer pays the processing tax. In the second, "the author's general conclusions are that the burden of the reduction program is on the consumer who will pay higher prices for pork products, that the benefit is to the farmer who will receive higher prices for his hogs, and that the packers and retailers may or may not widen their margins to make up for the smaller number of hogs slaughtered."

Discussion, by J. Roy Blough, follows on pp.334-339. The above sentence is quoted from this discussion.

96. Shepherd, Geoffrey. The incidence of the cost of the AAA corn-hog program. Jour. Farm Econ. 16(3):417-430. July 1934. 280.8 J822

"Journal Paper No.J-175, Iowa Agricultural Experiment<sup>Station</sup>/ Project No.10." - footnote, p.417.

"The objective of this paper is to determine who really provides the additional income that is to flow to farmers as a group. This objective cannot be fully attained because of the limitations of the data available, the small amount of research done, and the complex ramifications of the whole subject. The ramifications become gradually less important, however, as they branch out further and further; the main outlines of the problem can be dealt with in comparatively brief compass. The paper, therefore, will outline only broad and tentative answers, and indicate the lines along which further research is needed before complete and exhaustive answers can be given." - p.418.

"It seems, then, that (a) as far as the incidence of the processing tax is concerned, farmers 'pay the processing tax' themselves, in the sense that the price they receive for hogs is \$2.25 per hundred lower than if no tax were being applied; but they are being reimbursed by benefit payments from the federal government arising from the collection of the tax; (b) consumers will not pay the processing tax, but will bear a large part of the incidence of the effect of the reduction in hog production; they will receive, say, 20 percent less pork while paying out as much money as they used to pay for a full amount of pork; and (c) packers will take a smaller total volume of margin from the 'consumer's pork dollar' than before, even though their margin per pound may be increased, because of the reduced volume of pork they will handle. As a result, therefore, it appears that farmers will receive more gross money income, for raising fewer hogs, than before the program was put into effect; and their profits should be substantially increased."



97. Shepherd, Geoffrey. Prospects for agricultural recovery. VIII. Who pays for the hog reduction program? Iowa Agr. Expt. Sta. Bull. 317, pp. [201]-223. Ames. 1934.

This bulletin presents the same material, but in less technical form, which was published in an article entitled, "The Incidence of the Cost of the AAA Corn-Hog Program," in the July, 1934, issue of the Journal of Farm Economics.

98. Shepherd, Geoffrey. Who pays the processing tax [on hogs]? Successful Farming 33(7):9,28,29,33. July 1935. 6 Sul2

The packers are not paying the tax, the tax is not passed on to the consumer, and market statistics show that the tax is passed back to the farmer.

The effect of the reduction of hog supplies on the packers, the farmers and the consumers is discussed.

99. Swift & Company. 1934 year book covering the activities of the year 1933. 39pp. Chicago, Ill. [1933?] 50.9 Sw5

The following is quoted from a paragraph entitled "Effect of High Costs," on pp.16-17:

"Meat is, of course, the principal product of livestock and for that reason the value of a live animal is largely a reflection of the value of its meat content. The cost of handling and the value of by-products are also important factors. For example, when the packer is required to pay a processing tax on live hogs, the total costs of putting a hog through the packing plant is increased by the amount of the tax. The packer cannot pass this expense on to the consumer by charging higher prices for pork. The price of fresh pork, which is a perishable product and must be sold at the market whether prices are satisfactory or unsatisfactory (and the price of cured products which must be moved seasonally), is pre-determined for him by the incomes of consumers... All the packer can do is to treat the tax as additional expense when calculating the price he can pay for live hogs. In effect the tax is an added expense in the packer's operations and necessarily makes the live hog less valuable, by the amount of the tax, than it would otherwise be."

100. Tobin, B.F. What becomes of the consumer's meat dollar? 79pp. Chicago, The University of Chicago [1936] (Chicago Univ., Bur. Business and Econ. Research. Studies in the Packing industry) 50.9 C432C

"The University of Chicago and the Institute of American Meat Packers in co-operation."

"The present study assembles and analyzes certain recent statistical evidence bearing on prices and their relationships in the production and marketing of livestock, the processing of edible and inedible products derived therefrom, and the wholesale and retail distribution of the edible products. The period studied, 1925 through 1934, inclusive, covers: first, five years characterized by a high level of consumer income and a fairly stable general price level; then, almost four years of falling prices and shrinking consumer incomes; and finally, a year or more of rising incomes and prices. Most of the 1923-29 period of so-called prosperity is included, and the entire period of deflation of 1929-33. The year 1933 witnessed a recovery in general purchasing power and prices, which came too late in the year to be reflected fully in the annual averages."

The year 1934 was featured by further substantial price increases." - p.13.

While this is not a study of the incidence of the processing tax, Ch. VII, Division of Processing and Retail Margins, will be found of interest.

101. U.S. Congress, House, Committee on agriculture. Amend Packers and stockyards act. Hearings before a subcommittee... Seventy-third Congress, second session. March 15,16,17,21,22,23,24, 1934, April 19,20, 1934. Serial M. (Second print-extended). 328pp. Washington, U.S. Govt. Print.Off. 50 Un32A

In the statement of D.M. Hildebrand there is included, pp.56-58, an advertisement inserted in the Omaha Bee, Jan. 2, 1934, by the Cudahy Packing Co. The following regarding the processing tax is quoted from p.58:

"The recent annual reports of the four largest United States packers indicate net earnings in a substantial sum.

"Nevertheless, due to the enormous tonnage handled by them - and giving the benefit to livestock products of all of the earnings from other products - it can be said that these net earnings do not represent as much as one eighth cent per pound on the livestock slaughtered.

"With the processing tax now in effect at the rate of 1 cent per pound live weight on hogs it should be apparent that it is utterly impossible to pass this sum (which on the average is 1 1/2 to 2 cents per pound on meats) along to the consumer - at least until the time that normal business and wage earnings are restored.

"This processing tax at the present rate would in 3 months exceed the net earnings of the packers as shown by statements issued covering the fiscal year ending October 31, 1936..."

102. U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on agriculture and forestry. Amend the Packers and stockyards act, 1921. Hearings... Seventy-third Congress, second session, on S.2133, S.2621, and S.3064, bills to amend the Packers and stockyards act, 1921. March 14,15,16,19,20,21, and 22, 1934. 480pp. Washington, U.S. Govt. Print. Off. 1934. 50 Un36AM

Statement of H.G. Keeney, president, The Farmers Union of Nebraska, pp.71-77. The following is quoted from pp.74 and 75:

"Senator Capper... So far as I know, everybody has agreed that the packers have passed the processing tax back to the producer.

"Senator Norris. They don't dispute that. They admit that.

"Mr. Keeney. I think the best evidence of that is the study of price of hogs in Canada today and the price in this country.

"The Chairman. How do they compare?

"Mr. Keeney. They don't compare. They are very much higher in Canada...

"Senator Shipstead. What I mean as to controversy was that the Department of Agriculture's representatives were here, and my own understanding was that they said the farmer did not pay the processing tax unless he paid a small percentage.

"Senator Capper. I don't think anybody here had any idea that the producer was going to pay the processing tax when we passed that



legislation, but it turned out when they came to administer the act that the farmer had to carry the load. He is paying the tax. ...

"Senator Pope. Mr. Chairman. I was talking to Mr. Davis the other day, after the assertion was made on the floor of the Senate that the processing tax was passed back on to the producer, and he reminded me that in his testimony he didn't make any such statement as that, and I happen to have his testimony before me - Mr. Chester Davis - and this is what he said:

"In the case of hogs, I have given the figures, and I want to put the entire table into the record here, which shows that by reason of the relief purchases we have made the price of hogs has been held at a higher level than they were a year earlier when receipts were lighter in spite of the fact that there was a processing tax. I do not think that any man can take those figures and say definitely that the farmers pay the tax."

Statement of George E. Putnam, economist for Swift & Co., pp.254-307. See pp.289-291 for reason why farmer pays the processing tax.

103. U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on agriculture and forestry. To amend the Agricultural adjustment act. Hearings... Seventy-fourth Congress, first session, on S.1807, a bill to amend the Agricultural adjustment act, and for other purposes. March 7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15, and 16, 1935. 386pp. Washington, U.S. Govt. Print. Off. 1935. 281.12 Un3Am

See pp.183-186 for G.E. Putnam's statement on the processing tax on hogs and who pays it.

104. U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on agriculture and forestry. To make cattle a basic agricultural commodity under the Agricultural adjustment act. Hearings... Seventy-third Congress, second session, on H.R.7478, an act to amend the Agricultural adjustment act so as to include cattle as a basic agricultural commodity, and for other purposes. February 9 and 13, 1934. 32pp. Washington, U.S. Govt. Print. Off. 1934. 281.343 Un32

Contains statements of Hon. Tom Connally and C.C. Davis. Considerable attention is paid to who pays the processing tax, particularly the hog tax.

105. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. Before the Secretary of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. In re: Processing tax on hogs under section 9(b) of the Agricultural adjustment act... September 5, 1933. 36pp., mimeogr. Washington, D.C. 1933. 1.94 H67Hp

Testimony of T.E. Wilson, J.W. Rath, W.W. Woods, W.S. Clithero, and D. Van Gelder on the probable effects of a processing tax on hogs.

106. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. Corn-hog adjustment. A handbook for use in the corn-hog adjustment program. 103pp., illus. Washington. 1935. (C.H.-113) 1.4 H67

The Processing Taxes, ch.III, pp.63-82. See particularly pp.77-82, Incidence - who pays the processing tax, effect of the processing tax upon producers, effect of the processing tax upon consumers, effect on processors and other handlers, processors' gross margins less.

"The processing tax of 5 cents per bushel on field corn is being absorbed largely by processors. The corn processing tax rate is nominal and applies only to the amount of corn processed in commercial and industrial channels. This amount is equal to about 10 percent of the annual corn crop." - p.79.

"It appears that consumers as a group are bearing the hog processing tax mainly in the sense that they are getting a more moderate supply of pork and lard for an expenditure which is proportionate with but not materially in excess of past total expenditures at a similar level of income. An individual consumer who is buying the same amount of hog products as formerly, of course, really is spending relatively more than before the adjustment in supply." - p.80.

107. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. Emergency hog marketing program. Letter from the Secretary of agriculture transmitting in response to Senate resolution no.123, a report on the emergency hog marketing program conducted from August 23 to October 7, 1933, as prepared by the Agricultural adjustment administration. U.S. Cong. 73d, 2d Sess., Senate Doc.140, 44pp. 1934. 1.4 H67E

This is a report on the emergency hog-marketing program, "with respect to total number of animals purchased; the live weight of same; the total dollars paid; the yield and disposition of products; price trends at specified markets before, during, and after the buying campaign; and an opinion based on available data with respect to hog-price movements during October, November, and December." - p.III.

108. U.S. Department of agriculture, Bureau of agricultural economics. Economic situation of hog producers. Letter from the Secretary of agriculture, transmitting in response to Senate resolution no.281, a report pertaining to the hog situation and the probable effects of the proposed export debenture, equalization fee, and domestic allotment plans for farm relief, on the economic position of hog producers. U.S. Cong., 72d, 2d Sess., Senate Doc.184, 87pp. Washington, U.S. Govt. Print. Off. 1933. 1 Ec7Ec

The probable effects of various relief plans if applied to hogs... The domestic allotment plan, pp.56-73. While this study was made before the Agricultural Adjustment Act was passed it is of interest because it includes a study of the probable effects of the tax proposed under the various allotment plans.

109. Waite, W.C. Agricultural adjustment and processing taxes. Minn. Univ., Agr. Ext. Div., Minnesota Farm Business Notes, no.146, pp.1-3. mimeogr. Feb. 20, 1935.

Discusses the question of who pays the processing tax. In the case of hogs the writer concludes as follows:

"1. The processing tax is passed from the processors to the producers in the form of a lower price for hogs. If the processing tax were removed, the producer's price would be expected to rise by the amount of the tax but consumers' prices would remain unchanged.

"2. Non-cooperating producers are penalized by having prices reduced because of the tax, but they regain at least a portion of their



losses because of the higher general level of hog prices resulting from smaller supplies. Benefit payments to cooperating producers may be assumed to just about offset the losses involved from the lowering of their price because of the tax.

"3. Consumers appear to spend about the same sum for the smaller amount of hog products as they would have spent for a larger quantity. They lose by getting a small quantity of pork for the same expenditure, and having to make up the deficit in their food supply by increased expenditures on other products.

"4. Transportation, processing and distribution margins appear to be substantially unchanged per 100 pounds of pork products...

"5. There may have been some small gains in the form of a reduction of farm expenses.

110. Wilson, T.E. The packers, the producers, and the Agricultural adjustment act. 15pp. Chicago, Institute of American Meat Packers [1934] Pam.Coll.

"An abridgement of testimony given recently before the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives." (281.343 Un3)

The processing tax on hogs and who pays it, pp.6-10. "According to the best judgment that we can get at this time and the best views that are obtainable, very little of the tax that has been imposed has gone to the consumer... I wish it were possible for the packing industry to absorb the tax. But I shall mention some figures to you... that will convince you that it is just not possible to accomplish that."

#### JUTE

111. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. The jute tax and its cost to farmers of the Pacific Northwest. 10pp., maps, mimeogr. Washington, D.C. Mar. 24, 1934. 1.94 C82Jt

The following is quoted from the section on Tax Burden, pp.3-4:

"Processing taxes on competing commodities, like those on basic agricultural commodities, may fall on farmers as well as on other classes of our population. It is general knowledge that the South is normally a deficit producing section... To the extent that the Cotton Belt consumes more wheat than it produces, therefore, the burden of the wheat processing tax borne by that section will be disproportionately large in comparison with the amount of wheat produced in that section. The cotton tax falls on consumers of cotton goods throughout the country. Many farmers who produce no cotton bear a part of the cotton processing tax. It would be impossible to determine accurately to what extent the processing taxes on basic agricultural commodities and on competing commodities as a whole are borne by farmers and to what extent they are borne by other elements of the population...

"No doubt, in many instances, the jute tax falls on farmers. However, it is not easy to determine what individuals finally bear the burden of the tax even in the more simple cases. It is recognized that the jute tax has increased the price of new bags. When

the farmer buys new bags, therefore, he pays a higher price for them because of the tax. On the other hand, the higher price of new bags has increased the value of old bags. When the farmer sells his products in bags an increased allowance can be given him for the second-hand value of the bags.

"The price of jute bags has also risen for reasons other than the processing tax."

#### PAPER

112. American paper & pulp association. Before the Secretary of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. In re: Hearing on processing taxes on commodities in competition with cotton under section 15(d) of the Agricultural adjustment act. Brief in opposition to special processing tax on paper products competing with cotton. 21pp., illus. New York [1935?]

The following is quoted from the concluding part of the brief:

"We have endeavored, in this brief, to establish by available facts and figures, first, that no sufficient grounds exist for imposing the proposed compensating tax on paper products and, second, that even if such a tax were assessed, it would be extremely difficult to collect and would lead to many and serious complications and inequitable situations. It is possible, however, that these difficulties may be overcome by other means.

"While we think they have not produced evidence to establish the fact, the cotton manufacturers insist that the processing tax puts them at a disadvantage in their competition with paper. Assuming, for the sake of argument only, that this is so, the remedy appears to lie in the suggested abatement of the processing tax on products competing with paper rather than in attempting to impose an impracticable compensating tax upon the paper products. This view seems to have been adopted by the cotton manufacturers themselves if we correctly interpret the telegram filed by Mr. Elsas as a supplement to his brief..."

Accompanied by two charts which show relationship between price and consumption of cotton and paper flour bags, 1923-1933; and between price and consumption of cotton and paper cement bags, 1924-1933.

113. American paper & pulp association. Before the Secretary of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. In re: Hearing on processing taxes on commodities in competition with cotton under section 15(d) of the Agricultural adjustment act. Supplementary memorandum in opposition to special compensatory processing tax on paper products competing with cotton. 16pp. New York [1935?]

The purpose of this supplementary memorandum is "to discuss briefly the power given to the Secretary of Agriculture by the provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (Sec.15(d)) and the grounds for the exercise of those powers as shown by the evidence in the record now before the Administration."



114. [Bulwinkle, A.L., and Sloan, G.A.] Mill men want tax on paper continued. Textile Bull. 45(22):3-4,18. Feb. 1, 1934. 304.8 So32

A report of a hearing in Washington in which cotton manufacturers urged the retention of the processing tax on paper, "contending that an enormous amount of cotton goods business will be lost if the processing tax on cotton is not equalized by the tax on paper."

Extracts from statements made by Congressman A.L. Bulwinkle and George A. Sloan are given.

#### RICE

115. Rickert Rice Mills, Inc. Rickert rice mills, inc., petitioner, v. Rufus W. Fontenot, individually and as acting United States Collector of internal revenue for the district of Louisiana, respondent [and others],... On petition for writ of certiorari to the United States circuit court of appeals for the fifth circuit. Brief for petitioners ... 145pp. Houston, Young Co. [1935?] 281.359 Un34Br

At head of title: Nos. 577-581, 585-587. Supreme Court of the United States, October term, 1935.

Excerpts relating to "passing on" of taxes from economic authorities, Appendix E. pp.121-140.

The following is quoted from Point B of the Brief, p.28:

"These matters aside, however, the complete answer to this contention of the Government is that it assumes that the taxes have been 'passed on,' a matter which petitioners confidently assert can neither be proved nor disproved."

116. Rickert Rice Mills, Inc. Rickert rice mills, inc., petitioner, v. Rufus W. Fontenot, individually and as acting United States Collector of internal revenue for the district of Louisiana... [and others] On writs of certiorari to the United States circuit court of appeals for the fifth circuit. Brief for the respondent. 108pp. [Washington, U.S. Govt.Print.Off.1935] 281.359 Un34

At head of title: Nos.577-581,585-587. In the Supreme Court of the United States October term, 1935.

The Library also has the 132-page Appendix to the Brief for the Respondent.

See particularly pp.26-39 from which the following is taken:

"Processing taxes are usually either passed on to the ultimate consumer or back to the producer. This is apparently true of the processing tax on rice. An examination of the average farm price for rough rice during the months of April to November, 1935, inclusive, and of the 'spread' between prices paid the rice producer and those received upon the sale of the standard product, strongly indicates the fact that the tax was actually in part taken out of the producer and in part passed on to the consumer. A study of the market prices of 'Fancy Blue Rose' in connection with prices paid producers for Louisiana rice is used for the purpose of this examination...

"The available data indicate that, in the case of rice and its products, the processor has in part taken the processing tax out of the price paid the producer and has in part passed the tax on."

117. U.S. Congress, House, Committee on agriculture. Rice program. Hearing... Seventy-fourth Congress, first session on H.R.5221. February 12, 1935. Serial C. 26pp. Washington, U.S. Govt. Print. Off. 1935. 281.359 Un3R

The following is quoted from Charles G. Miller's testimony, p.6:

"In this connection, the situation in the rice industry at this time is different from that that has prevailed in most other industries at the time processing taxes have become effective. In the case of other commodities in which the price has not been supported by a marketing agreement of license, a part of the processing tax has been passed on to consumers. Only a part, and in some cases a small part, of the processing tax has been passed back to growers.

"Studies made during the past few days indicate that nine-tenths of a cent per pound would represent the approximate difference between the marketing agreement and the world price at the present time. World prices change from week to week but the committee may want to consider fixing the processing rate at nine-tenths of a cent per pound during the remainder of this marketing year...

"Consideration has been given to this amendment from the standpoint of consumers. Our conclusion is that the interests of consumers would not be affected adversely since it is not expected that the processing tax would result in prices appreciably higher than those that are being maintained under existing marketing agreements and licenses."

#### SUGAR

118. Dalton, J. E. Sugar, a case study of the relationship of government and business. Harvard Business Rev. 14(2):172-185. winter 1936. 280.8 H262

The purpose of this paper, written before the Supreme Court decision in the Hoosac Mills case, is to examine the origin of the Jones-Costigan Sugar Act, "to consider the attitude of business men towards its creation, to outline the difficulties which were found in its development, and to analyze the major economic and political factors which were favorable and unfavorable to its administration."

The following is a paragraph from a section, pp.182-183, on the Substitution of a Direct, for an Indirect, Subsidy:

"The fund from which all payments were made under the adjustment contracts... was derived from a processing tax of one-half cent per pound upon the refining of raw sugar. Congress directed the Secretary to levy the necessary processing tax up to, but not in excess of, one-half cent per pound. In the establishing of this processing tax, therefore, the discretionary power of the Secretary was decidedly limited. At approximately the same time that the processing tax was applied upon sugar, there was a reduction by Executive Order of the duty upon sugar under the flexible provisions of the Tariff Act in an amount equal to the processing tax. Consequently, the broad effect of the reduction of the duty and the imposition of the processing tax was to leave the refiner, the payer of the tax, in a position not substantially different from that before the enactment of the Sugar Bill. This meant that the net cost



of sugar to the refiner was not substantially changed and, consequently, it was not necessary to change the price of refined sugar as a result of such a tax. The retail price of sugar was not greatly disturbed and the net effect of the tax (and the quota system) upon the consuming public was inconsiderable... In addition to this, the amount of raw sugar actually refined by the refiner was not reduced... In the face of these facts, continental sugar refiners (including sugar beet processors) found the plan not disruptive to their industry and gave full coöperation to the Secretary."

119. U.S. Congress, House, Committee on agriculture. Include sugar beets and sugarcane as basic commodities. Hearing... Seventy-third Congress, second session, on H.R.7907. February 19-23, 1934. Serial J. 251pp. Washington, U.S. Govt. Print. Off. 1934. 281.365 Un3

In his testimony A.J.S. Weaver, p.14, made the statement that the processing tax "will be paid by the consumer; it must be paid by the consumer just as every other processing tax."

#### TOBACCO

120. Rowe, H.B. Tobacco under the AAA. 317pp. Washington, D.C., The Brookings Institution. 1935. (The Institute of Economics of the Brookings Institution. Pub.No.62) 281.269 R79

See particularly Ch.VIII, Financing the Program; ch.IX, Results of the Program in 1933 and 1934; and ch.X, Longer Term Possibilities and Limitations. On p.247 the statement is made that the program has been adequately financed by revenues from the processing taxes; that growers' benefits have come from the former profit margins of the manufacturers; and that little if any of the costs have been borne by the consumers of tobacco products.

121. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. Manufacturers suggest 2-cent tax on cigar tobacco. lp., mimeogr. [Washington, D.C.] Sept. 8, 1933.(Press release) 1.94 T55Ma

Brief report on a public hearing called by Secretary Wallace to aid in the determination of a processing tax on tobacco.

B.G. Meyer said that "a processing tax would have to be absorbed by the manufacturer," and that "the processing tax could not be passed on to the consumer because an odd-cent cigar meets with a poor sale."

#### WHEAT

122. Bennett, M.K., and Farnsworth, H.C. The world wheat situation, 1933-34; a review of the crop year. Wheat Studies of the Food Research Institute 11(4):125-195. December 1934. 59.8 F73

Written with the advice of Alonzo E. Taylor.

The processing tax and flour consumption, pp.138-140.

"It seems to us clear that in the case of the processing tax on wheat the burden has been borne to a preponderating extent by consumers; and we take it that the retail price of flour includes most



of the processing tax of 30 cents a bushel on wheat plus the mark-up of the trades. Most flour is sold to a wholesaler and then to a retailer, so that there are two mark-ups, usually on a percentage basis. If this interpretation be correct, the price of flour is significantly higher in relation to prices of competing cereal products than it would be in the absence of the processing tax on wheat."

123. Bennett, M.K., Farnsworth, H.C., and Working, Holbrook. World wheat survey and outlook, January 1934. Wheat Studies of the Food Research Institute 10(4):143-182. January 1934. 59.8 F73

United States flour consumption and the processing tax, pp.158-160.

124. Consumers' council takes issue with Stude concerning processing tax. Modern Miller 61(24): 15. June 16, 1934. 298.8 M72

"Dr. Frederick C. Howe, consumers' counsel of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration took issue with a statement concerning processing taxes by the chairman of the National Bakers' Council in announcing rejection of the bakers' code." Statement is to the effect that there is no evidence "that the trade is paying any of the processing taxes, except for brief periods the tax on hogs."

125. Davis, J.S. The A.A.A. 29pp. Minneapolis, Univ. Minnesota Press. [1934] (The Day and Hour Series of the University of Minnesota No.7) 280.9 M663D

The writer's purpose in this paper is not to "advocate, or criticize, nor attempt to appraise and forecast", but "to explain and illuminate, and to raise some questions that are of interest both to those who are in the midst of the task and to those who are affected by it." However, on pp.20-21, the following is given relative to the effect of the processing tax on wheat:

"Such a tax itself constitutes an economic force, affecting the course of consumption, trade, industry, and production; and it casts its shadow before. Several effects of the wheat processing tax are already in evidence. Commercial flour production was stimulated in the weeks before the tax came into effect on July 9 and fell off in subsequent months. Consumption of flour and wheat bread has apparently been adversely affected; individuals and institutions have turned to substitutes thus far untaxed, such as corn meal and rye flour; this has given rise to demands for compensating processing taxes on such substitutable foods. At local mills wheat growers are trading their wheat for untaxed flour, extensively for their own use as permitted under the Act, and to some extent for others in spite of its illegality. In consequence, the volume of commercial milling, already reduced by the loss of export markets, has been sharply curtailed since July. Wheat growing for home consumption is being stimulated in states where little wheat can be economically raised. It is too early to measure the extent of these various influences. But it is obvious that any diminution in human consumption of wheat and any stimulus to wheat production are contrary to the program itself; and it is not only uneconomic but foreign to the intentions of the program to bring about shifts from commercial to custom milling and shifts of wheat production from low-cost to high-cost areas."

126. Davis, J.S. The Agricultural adjustment act. Quart. Jour. Econ. 45(2): 358-363. February 1935. 280.8 Q2

One of a series of two articles on Experiments in Wheat Control. The first article, pp.356-358, is by Alfred Flummer and is on The British Wheat Act, 1932.

Mr. Davis' article is "based mainly on a study made under the auspices of the Brookings Institution, shortly to be published with the title Wheat and the AAA, 1933-1934." It compares the wheat policy of Great Britain with the United States wheat policy under the Agricultural Adjustment Act. The following is quoted from the section on the processing tax:

"The tax has not served to reduce per capita flour consumption radically, as millers had prophesied. It does appear to be contributing to depress slightly or hold down wheat consumption for food, which has declined appreciably during the depression years; but the extent of this effect is not determinable. Contrary to millers' forecasts, the effect of levying the tax on wheat grain has not seriously (if even noticeably) affected price spreads among flours of various grades. Millers, and in general bakers also, believe that they are passing the tax on to consumers, and farmers have complained that they are getting lower wheat prices because of the tax. The complex problem of the incidence of the tax has not yet been adequately studied, but consumers apparently will bear most of the burden. Per pound of bread, this amounts to about half a cent, or about 6 per cent of the average sales price; in Great Britain, where bread prices are only about half as high as here, the percentage burden on bread is much the same."

127. Davis, J.S. Wheat and the AAA. 468pp. Washington, D.C., The Brookings Institution. 1935. (Institute of Economics of the Brookings Institution. Pub.No.61) 281.359 D29

Wheat Processing and Related Taxes, ch.VI, pp.170-204.

Early Results of AAA Wheat Operations... Prices of Wheat, Flour, and Bread, ch.XI, pp.359-365. See also the index under subject, Taxes, processing and related.

The following is quoted from a review of the book by O.C. Stine in Agricultural Economics Literature, v.10, no.9, pp.756, 757. November 1936 (pp.753-760):

"The wheat processing tax is described as 'regressive' on two accounts: (1) that it bore heavily upon low income groups, and (2) that the funds were used in securing a reduction in supplies with a view to raising wheat prices. The author explains, however, that the tax was justified by its sponsors as a measure of social justice and as such, it was generally accepted without much protest...

"The income of wheat growers was increased by over \$200,000,000 above what they otherwise would have received. This was done at the expense of consumers of wheat."

128. Dudley, C.W. The "windfall" tax levy. Tax Mag.14(11):651-653, 695-696. November 1936. 284.58 T195

This paper was presented at a joint meeting of the Millers' National Federation and the Spring Wheat Millers' Club in Minneapolis,



Oct. 2, 1936. While it "is devoted to the application of the wind-fall tax to the milling industry, the principles explained are generally applicable to others who are subject to the tax."

Determination of incidence of processing tax, pp.653, 695.

129. Farrell, G.E. The second phase of the wheat program. Address... prepared for delivery at annual convention of Farmers cooperative grain dealers association, at Enid, Oklahoma, April 6, 1934. 11pp., mimeogr. [Washington, D.C.] U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Adjustment Admin. 1934. 1.94 W56Se

The following is quoted from p.10:

"A preliminary investigation of who pays the processing tax has just been made by some of our economists. In some commodities, finding who pays the tax is difficult, but this is not true in wheat. The man who eats bread, and that means everyone, pays this wheat tax. The economists found that the tax wasn't paid by the millers. They compared the course of wheat prices in the United States with the prices of other speculative commodities and with the prices of wheat in foreign countries. This showed that the tax was not being taken out of the prices received by farmers. They also found that the price of bran and shorts had not increased enough to cover the tax. This left flour as the wheat product which had increased sufficiently to cover the processing tax. This means that the one who pays is the consumer."

130. Gusler, Gilbert. The effect of the wheat processing tax. Southwest. Miller 12(50):21,22. Feb. 13, 1934. 298.8 So82  
A study of influence on flour consumption by Gilbert Gusler issued by the Millers' National Federation.

The following is quoted from the summary: "Preliminary analysis indicates that the decline in domestic consumption of wheat flour since the processing tax went into effect is less than is generally believed."

131. Harris, S. C. Remove wheat processing tax. Com. and Finance 23(34):685. Aug. 22, 1934. 286.8 C737

Suggests that the Government remove the processing tax on wheat since "it imposes a burden upon the consumer to the extent of about \$1.50 per barrel of flour."

132. "Hot money." 11p. Pam.Coll.

"From the Southwestern Baker, April 1936."

Article on processing tax refunds and the baker. The baker is now getting his flour for \$1.38 less per barrel than he did before the tax was declared unconstitutional.

"The average baker claims, and rightfully so, that he did not pass on the tax but absorbed it; therefore, the baker should be making more profit than before the tax went off, for in very few instances has the price of bread declined."



133. Johnson, Sherman. Wheat under the Agricultural adjustment act. Developments up to June 1934. Brookings Inst. Pamphlet Ser. No.14, 103pp. Washington. 1934. 280.9 B79

Pages 88-91 of the chapter on some early results of the program summarize briefly some preliminary figures on processing tax collections for the first six months and also some early studies of the incidence of processing tax.

134. Kendrick, M.S. The processing tax on wheat. Amer. Econ. Rev. 26(4): 621-636. December 1936. 280.8 Am32

"This tax illustrates the other side of the doctrine that 'the power to tax is the power to destroy.' The processing of wheat was taxed 30 cents a bushel, or 51 per cent of the value of this grain at the time of the initial levy of the tax, not to cripple the industry of growing wheat but to aid it. This tax was on the whole collected efficiently, despite the difficulties that arose in its administration. Moreover, as measured by the ratio of the tax liability for processing wheat, to the number of bushels processed, the effectiveness of the administration of this tax was improved considerably by the Bureau of Internal Revenue in the second year of its levy. A large revenue was realized in both years. The economic effects of the processing tax on wheat were: a shifting forward of the burden of the tax; a small decline in the consumption of wheat; and possibly some contribution to economic recovery through the redistribution of credit resources brought about by the tax." - p.621.

The incidence of the tax, pp.628-632.

135. [Knighton, Samuel] Samuel Knighton opposes processing tax. Tells New York retail bakers that baking industry must absorb brunt of tax - benefits unequally distributed. Modern Miller 62(19):14-15. May 11, 1935. 298.8 M72

An address before the fortieth annual convention of the New York State Association of Manufacturing Retail Bakers, Brooklyn, N.Y., May 6-7.

136. Knowles, W.F. Wheat, and the probable effect of the processors' tax upon your bread prices. 7pp., mimeogr. [New Brunswick. 1933] Pam.Coll.

"A talk broadcast from station WOR, New York, July 5, 1933."

The following is quoted from the summary of the article (p.7) which has fifteen points:

"14. Since a bushel of wheat makes about 42.6 pounds of flour and since 42.6 pounds of flour make about 60 one pound loaves of bread, the processors' tax of 30 cents a bushel on wheat should not mean more than a tax of one-half cent upon a one pound loaf of bread."

137. [Lingham, F.J.] Processing taxes and the tariff. Northwest. Miller and Amer. Baker 12(11):358. Nov. 6, 1935. 298.8 N81

A reprint of a recent argument made public by the president of the Federal Mill, Inc., Lockport, N.Y., and former head of the Millers National Federation.

The principles and effects of both the tariff and the processing tax are set forth.

"Processing taxes have cost consumers an average of over \$4 per capita per year for every man, woman and child in the country, or over \$20 per year for a family of five."

138. Newell, M. E. How the processing tax lowers flour consumption. Northwest. Miller 180(4):[277], 296,297. Oct. 31, 1934. 298.8 N81

"The results of the first year under the wheat processing tax have confirmed millers' fears of a further reduction in flour consumption as a consequence of the increased price of flour to the consumer..."

There is also an editorial on this subject on p.279, entitled "Tax and Flour Consumption."

139. Steen, Herman. The wheat processing tax. Grain & Feed Journals Consolidated 71(6):250,251. Sept. 27, 1933. 298.8 G762

Address before the Grain & Feed Dealers National Association, in Chicago, Ill., in which the writer presents three effects of the processing tax: "it has probably materially reduced the consumption of wheat"; it has placed restrictions on farmers; it has increased the operating costs of the mills.

140. U.S. Department of agriculture, Agricultural adjustment administration. Fifty questions and answers on wheat production adjustment. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Adjustment Admin. Commodity Inform. Ser., Wheat Leaflet no.1, 8pp. 1935. 1.4 W56W1

"Question 30. Who pays the processing tax and how is it determined?

"Answer. The wheat processing tax is levied upon the miller, but is passed on to the consumer. The amount of the tax was determined in accordance with the Agricultural Adjustment Act..."

"Question 31. How does the processing tax affect the price of bread to the consumer?

"Answer. The tax of 30 cents per bushel represents about one-half cent per pound of bread." - p.6.

141. Who should NOT get the impounded taxes. Northwest. Miller 185(3):235. Jan. 22, 1936. 298.8 N21

This "summary of the processing tax situation is reprinted from The News, a small market and gossip circular sent to its customers each week by the Consolidated Flour Mills Co., of Wichita, Kansas. It is here quoted in full because it probably comes as near to straightforwardly setting forth the views of most millers as anything so far written by one of them." [Editor's note]

The statement is made that the consumer is the only one who has moral right to the impounded taxes if and when they are returned to the millers.

"The sole reason to claim any portion of what will be left to the millers out of the impounded funds is based upon the axiom that the 'customer' is always right. The millers' customers have no contracted right to the money - no legal right. And no moral right, either, for the consumer is the only person who was hurt."



INDEX

Item	Item
Agricultural adjustment act	Bennett, M. K.
added to high cost of living ... 1	World wheat situation, 1933-34.
amendments to, hearing ..... 20	With H.C. Farnsworth ..... 122
criticism of, ..... 3	World wheat survey and outlook,
economic bases for ..... 8	January 1934. With H.C.
legal status ..... 2	Farnsworth and Holbrook
operations, hearings ..... 22	Working ..... 123
American academy of political and	Blough, J.R., discussion of
social science. New deal costs	Geoffrey Shepherd's paper on
and the high costs of living ... 15	incidence of the AAA processing
American cotton cooperative asso-	tax on hogs ..... 95
ciation, study of the processing	Boston chamber of commerce: That
tax, quoted ..... 47	multi-headed process tax ..... 53
American cotton manufacturers'	Bread
association	cost,
addresses of president..... 62-63	effect of processing tax on 20,
Proceedings, 1934 ..... 62	25,126,136,140
American liberty league: Consumers	Brookings institution, Institute
and the AAA ..... 1	of economics
American paper & pulp association	Corn and hogs under the Agri-
Brief in opposition to special	cultural adjustment act .. 89
processing tax on paper prod-	Cotton and the AAA ..... 72
ucts competing with cotton .. 112	Cotton under the Agricultural
Supplementary memorandum in	adjustment act ..... 73
opposition to special com-	Livestock under the AAA ..... 90
pensatory processing tax on	Tobacco under the AAA ..... 120
paper products competing with	Wheat and the AAA ..... 126,127
cotton ..... 113	Wheat under the Agricultural
Anderson, Sydney, states that con-	adjustment act ..... 133
sumption of wheat has decreased	Brown University: Some measures
since processing tax ..... 20	of development in cotton tex-
	tiles ..... 37
	Bulwinkle, A.L., extract from
Barnes, J.B.: Legal status of AAA	statement on processing tax on
and processing tax ..... 2	paper ..... 114
Barnum, J.D.: Recovery or social	Burton, L.V.: Where the processing
revolution ..... 3	tax fails ..... 4
Bean, L.H.	
Economic bases for the Agri-	Capper, Senator ..... 102
cultural adjustment act. With	Cattle, processing taxes, opposed 13,35
Mordecai Ezekiel ..... 8	Chadwick-Hoskins Mills ..... 52
report on impounded processing	Chamber of commerce committee on
taxes ..... 28	industrial conditions in New
Bedding filling material, effect	England ..... 70
of processing tax on ..... 42	Chicago University, Bureau of
Benefit payments, raise farm income	Business and economic research:
nearly one-third ..... 6	Studies in the packing industry 100



Item	Item
Clark, O.M.: Some pros and cons of the cotton processing tax ..... 38	Cotton processing tax effect ..... 65,86
Clemson agricultural college, Extension service: Some pros and cons of the cotton processing tax ..... 38	on competing materials ... 44
Clifford, J.C.: What nullification of processing taxes means to meat packers ..... 88	on consumer ..... 82-83
Clithero, W.S., testimony on the probable effects of a processing tax on hogs ..... 105	on consumption ... 25,26,65,78
Cobb, C.A.: Farmers' tariff ..... 39	on durable goods industries 45
Comer, Donald: Spinner doubts wisdom of processing tax and why 40	on exports and imports ... 47
Compensatory taxes ..... 73	on filling material for mattresses, etc. .... 42
and prices ..... 17	on prices of cotton and cotton goods 37,41,44,46, 51,59,62,68,78
for cottonseed oil, opposed .... 81	on producers ..... 83
paper ..... 112-114	on textile industry 37,39, 43,48,50,52-54,56-57,61- 67,69,75-76,80,84-85
proposed, transcriptions of hearings ..... p.III	impounded and processors' profits ..... 28
Comstock, Alzada: Revolt of the cotton textiles ..... 41	incidence 11,14,24,26,30,38,55, 57,72-73,84,85,90
Connally, Tom ..... 104	not paid by mills 55,75,77,84,86
Consolidated flour mills co.: Who should not get the impounded taxes ..... 141	paid by consumer 17-19,22-23, 25-27,31,40,45,49,58,71,76, 79,82
Consumer	paid by mills ..... 52-54,60,70
cost of processing tax to ..... 36	paid by producer ..... 51,56
does not pay bulk of tax ..... 16	Cotton goods, prices, effect of processing tax on 37,41,44,46,51, 58,68,78
effect of processing tax on, ... 31	Cotton waste, effect of processing tax on ..... 74
pays the processing tax 5,6,7,25,29	Cottonseed oil, compensatory tax on, approved ..... 81
See also names of commodities.	Cox, A.B.
Cooper, M.R.: Recent developments in the domestic cotton textile industry. With F.V. Waugh and C.C. Farrington ..... 85	Cotton ..... 44-45
Corn	Importance of costs and services in the cotton industry ..... 46
prices, relation to hog prices . 94	Creekmore, E.F.: Processing tax not to blame ..... 47
processing tax absorbed by processors ..... 106	Cudahy packing co. .... 101
incidence ..... 11	Dairy products, processing tax, probable effect ..... 87
paid by consumers ..... 93	Dalton, J.E.: Sugar, a case study of the relationship of government and business ..... 118
Corn-hog program	Dana, Philip, statement before the President's Special cabinet committee ..... 48
effects, Iowa ..... 93	
financing ..... 89	
incidence of the cost ..... 96	
Cost of living, increased by processing tax ..... 1,15,17	

	Item		Item
Davis, C.C. ....	102,104	Fielder, E. C., interview with	
Benefit payments from processing		G.A. Sloan .....	76
taxes raise farm income nearly		Fitzgerald, D.A.	
one-third .....	6	Corn and hogs under the Agri-	
statement regarding incidence of		cultural adjustment act .....	89
processing tax on hogs, quoted	102	Livestock under the AAA .....	90
Davis, J.S.		Flood, F.A.: Who pays processing	
A.A.A. ....	125	tax. With DeW. C. Wing .....	91
Agricultural adjustment act ....	126	Food research institute	
Wheat and the AAA .....	127	World wheat situation 1933-34 ..	122
Dorr, G.H. ....	43	World wheat survey and outlook.	
Du Brul, E.F.: Immorality of the		January 1934 .....	123
AAA .....	7	Forwood, A.T., statement on pro-	
Dudley, C.W.: "Windfall" tax levy .	128	cessing tax and cotton filling	
Durham, T.R.: Processing tax bulle-		material .....	42
tin sent to Southern hosiery			
mills .....	49	Gaffney, Mary: Processing taxes in	
Erwin cotton mills company .....	58	a chemical process industry... p.III	
Ezekiel, Mordecai: Economic bases		George, W.F.: Action of cotton	
for the Agricultural Adjustment		processing tax plan makes	
Act. With L.H. Bean .....	8	farmer pay the tax .....	51
Farrell, G.E.: Order out of chaos		Gusler, Gilbert: Effect of the	
in agriculture .....	9	wheat processing tax .....	130
Farmers			
paid heavily in processing taxes,		Haas, J.R., statement on processing	
Northeast .....	3	tax and mattress filling .....	42
pay more in cost of the tax than		Harris, S.C.: Remove wheat pro-	
in benefits received .....	20	cessing tax .....	131
pay the processing tax .....	13	Harrower, D.C.: Judicial pandora's	
See also names of commodities		box .....	10
Farmers' national grain corporation	20	Hildebrand, D.M., statement before	
Farnsworth, H.C.		House committee on agriculture .	101
World wheat situation, 1933-34.		Hogs	
. With M.K. Bennett .....	122	emergency marketing program ....	107
World wheat survey and outlook,		prices, factors determining ....	94
January 1934. With M.K.		processing and retail margins ..	100
Bennett and Holbrook Working	123	processing tax	
Farrell, G.E.		can processors pay .....	21
Order out of chaos in agriculture	9	effect	
Second phase of the wheat program	129	on consumers .....	106
Farrington, C.C.: Recent develop-		on prices .....	20,23,31,93,109
ments in the domestic cotton		on processors .....	101,106
textile industry. With F.V.		on producers .....	106
Waugh and M.R. Cooper .....	85	probable .....	105
Federal mill, inc. ....	137	impounded and processors'	
Field, E.G.: Example of mill		profits .....	28
profit trends under the NRA and		incidence 9,11,14,22,24,27,	
AAA .....	50	30-31,33,94-98,101,103-	
		104,106,109,124	



Item	Item
Hogs - Continued.	
processing tax - cont'd.	
not paid by consumer...98,101,110	
not paid by processor 92,98-99,	
110	
not paid by producer 9,91,99,102	
paid by consumer.....17,88,95,106	
paid by producer 95,96,98,102,109	
passed to producer and to	
consumer ..... 19	
reduces price of hogs ..... 20	
tends to be passed on to con-	
sumer ..... 18	
under allotment plans,	
probable effects ..... 108	
supplies, effect of reduction of,	
on packers, farmers and con-	
sumers ..... 98	
Holman, C.W.: Processing tax, even	
exchange of money ..... 87	
Hood, E.N.: That multi-headed	
process tax ..... 53	
Hope, Congressman, extract from	
statement on processing tax and	
the textile industry ..... 39	
Howe, F.C., takes issue with	
National Bakers' Council on	
processing taxes ..... 124	
Hutchison, C.E.: Cotton processing	
tax ..... 54	
Institute of American meat packers 21,	
100	
Packers, the producers and the	
Agricultural adjustment act 110	
Pork prices and processing tax 92	
Institute of economics See Brook-	
ings institution	
Iowa Agricultural experiment	
station: Prospects for agri-	
cultural recovery. VII. Who pays	
for the hog reduction program .. 97	
Johnson, Sherman: Wheat under the	
Agricultural adjustment act .... 133	
Jones-Costigan sugar act ..... 118	
Jute	
prices, effect of cotton pro-	
cessing tax on ..... 44	
processing tax, incidence ..... 111	
Keeney, H.G., statement on in-	
cidence of processing tax ..... 102	
Kendrick, M.S.	
Processing tax on wheat ..... 134	
Processing taxes ..... 11	
Processing taxes and some	
problems raised by them ..... 55	
Knighton, Samuel, opposes processing	
tax ..... 135	
Knowles, W.F.: Wheat, and the	
probable effect of the pro-	
cessors' tax upon your bread	
prices ..... 136	
Law, J.A.: Mill executive discusses	
textiles under the recovery pro-	
gram ..... 56	
Learned, E.P.: Cotton textile	
situation ..... 57	
Lewis, K.P.: Processing tax is un-	
fair levy on cotton textiles ... 58	
Lingham, F.J.	
Processing taxes and the tariff 137	
statement on cost of processing	
tax to farmers ..... 20	
Loper, R.E.: Textile costs under	
the N.R.A. .... 59	
Lutz, H.L.: Public finance ..... 12	
McC Campbell, Leavelle: Federal	
government owes processors over	
\$95,000,000 ..... 60	
McCuen, D.E.: Where does the burden	
fall ..... 61	
McKelvie, S.R.: Out with processing	
taxes ..... 13	
Marchant, T.M.	
address on cotton textile in-	
dustry, code, processing	
taxes, etc. .... 62	
Cotton processing tax puts	
great burden on mills ..... 63	
Marshall, Hunter, Jr.: Eighteen	
months under the processing tax 64	
Mason, J.E.: Incidence of the	
processing taxes ..... 14	
Merritt, C.L.: Analysis of the	
processing tax ..... 65	
Meyer, B.G., statement on pro-	
cessing tax on cigar tobacco .. 121	



	Item		Item
Middlemen, oppose tax .....	32	Paper	
Miller, C.G., testimony on rice		compensatory tax .....	112-114
processing tax .....	117	prices, effect of cotton	
Millers' national federation: Ef-		processing tax on .....	44
fect of the wheat processing tax	130	Peanuts, processing tax, incidence	11
Minnesota university: Day and hour		Perishables, processing tax on,	
series: The AAA .....	125	paid by the producer .....	4
Minnesota university, Agricultural		Plummer, Alfred: British wheat act	126
extension division: Agricultural		Pope, Senator .....	102
adjustment and processing taxes	109	Processing taxes	
Montague, G.H.: New deal costs and		immorality of .....	7
the high cost of living .....	15	impounded, and processors'	
Moore, Frederick		profits .....	28
Processing tax on cotton is		probable effects .....	12
direct levy on mills and em-		proposed, transcriptions of	
ployees .....	66	hearings .....	p.III
Remove the processing tax .....	67	refunds, purchaser will not	
Will Secretary Wallace listen		receive .....	10
to reason .....	68	theory, .....	8,17,19,27
Myers, Lawrence, statement on the		<u>See also names of commodities</u>	
cotton processing tax .....	55	Producer	
National bakers' council on pro-		pays processing tax on perish-	
cessing taxes .....	124	ables .....	4
National industrial conference		<u>See also names of commodities</u>	
board, inc.		Providence chamber of commerce:	
American agricultural condi-		Some measures of development in	
tions and remedies .....	16	cotton textiles .....	37
National reconstruction and		Public affairs council .....	76
recovery program... Part		Putnam, G.E.	
III. Processing taxes ....	17	gives reason why farmer pays	
National tax association. Pro-		the hog processing tax .....	102
ceedings, 1935 .....	75	statement on who pays the pro-	
New England council, Industrial de-		cessing tax on hogs .....	103
partment: Summary of survey of		statement regarding effect of	
the current situation of the		tax on price of hogs .....	20
New England cotton textile in-			
dustry .....	70	Rath, J.W., testimony on the	
Newell, M.E.: How the processing tax		probable effects of a processing	
lowers flour consumption .....	138	tax on hogs .....	105
Norris, Senator .....	102	Rayon, prices, effect of cotton	
North Carolina cotton manufacturers		processing tax on .....	25,44
association, ask removal of		Rice, processing tax, incidence	11,
processing tax .....	64		115-117
Ohio state university, College of		Richards, H.I.	
agriculture, Dept. of rural		Cotton and the AAA .....	72
economics. Processing tax: the		Cotton under the Agricultural	
farmer's tariff .....	32	adjustment act .....	73
		Rickert rice mills, inc.	
		Brief for petitioners .....	115
		Brief for respondent .....	116

Item	Item
Roberts, R.H.: Economic effects of the corn-hog program in Iowa ... 93	Swift & Company ..... 20,102
Rowe, H.B.: Tobacco under the AAA.. 120	1934 year book ..... 99
Rucker, A.W., survey of textile costs, quoted ..... 66	Talmadge, A.A.: New England grins but finds it hard to bear ..... 78
Ryan, J.M.: Processing tax and cotton waste ..... 74	Taxes, "Passing on" of, excerpts from economic authorities ..... 115
Rye, processing tax, incidence .... 11	Taylor, A.E. .... 122
Sanders, J.T.: National significance of the agricultural processing taxes ..... 75	Teuton, F.L.: Take a good long look at this -- and see how the processing tax works ..... 79
Sarle, C.F.: Affidavit on the processing tax on hogs and the corn-hog production program .... 94	Textile industry <u>See</u> Cotton, processing tax
Shepherd, Geoffrey	Textile World Analyst. What has happened in textiles under codes and taxes ..... 80
Incidence of the AAA processing tax on hogs ..... 95	Thatcher, M.W.; exhibit on effect of processing tax on cost of a loaf of bread ..... 20
Incidence of the cost of the AAA corn-hog program ..... 96	Tobacco
Prospects for agricultural recovery ..... 97	processing tax
Who pays the processing tax on hogs ..... 98	absorbed by manufacturer 17,120, 121
Shipstead, Senator ..... 102	effect ..... 26
Silk, prices, effect of cotton processing tax on ..... 25,44	incidence ..... 11,14
Sloan, G.A.	Tobin, B.F.: What becomes of the consumer's meat dollar ..... 100
extracts from statement on processing tax on paper ..... 114	Tugwell, R.G.: Nature and agricultural adjustment ..... 19
letter to Senator Walsh on processing tax and textile mills 41	U.S. Congress, House, Committee on agriculture
Taxes paid by textile mills .... 76	Amend Packers and stockyards act. Hearings ..... 101
Soap industry, effect of processing tax on certain oils on, ..... p.III	Amendments to Agricultural adjustment act. Hearing .. 20
Southern hosiery manufacturers' association ..... 49	Include sugar beets and sugarcane as basic commodities. Hearing ..... 119
Stedman, A.D.: Farm income, benefit payments and processing taxes .. 18	Rice program ..... 117
Steen, Herman: Wheat processing tax 139	U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on agriculture and forestry
Stewart, A.D.: Why the Agricultural adjustment administration ..... 77	Agricultural emergency act to increase farm purchasing power. Hearings ..... 21
Stine, O.C., review of Davis' Wheat and the AAA ..... 127	Amend the Packers and stockyards act, 1921. Hearings 102
Stock growers, oppose processing tax ..... 35	Operations of Agricultural adjustment act. Hearings.. 22
Stude, on processing taxes ..... 124	To amend the Agricultural adjustment act. Hearings ... 103
Sugar	
processing tax	
incidence ..... 11,118	
paid by the consumer ..... 119	



Item	Item
U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on agriculture and forestry - cont'd. To make cattle a basic agri- cultural commodity... Hearings ..... 104	U.S. Dept. of agriculture, Agri- cultural adjustment adminis- tration - Cont'd. Impounded processing taxes and processors' profits .. 28 Jute tax and its cost to farmers of the Pacific northwest ..... 111 Manufacturers suggest 2-cent tax on cigar tobacco ..... 121 Order out of chaos in agri- culture ..... 9 Second phase of the wheat program ..... 129 studies on the incidence of the processing tax re- ferred to ..... 24
U.S. Dept. of agriculture Affidavit of Charles F. Sarle .. 94 and cattle processing taxes .... 13 Economic bases for the Agri- cultural adjustment act ..... 8 Farmers' tariff ..... 39 Nature and agricultural adjust- ment ..... 19 Studies of incidence of pro- cessing tax quoted ..... 16 study of effect of tax on con- sumption of wheat and cotton, referred to ..... 22 study of factors which determine hog prices, quoted ..... 94	U.S. Dept. of agriculture, Agri- cultural adjustment adminis- tration, Consumers' Counsel Processing taxes ..... 29 Who pays the processing taxes 30
U.S. Dept. of agriculture, Agricul- tural adjustment administration Achieving a balanced agri- culture ..... 23 Agricultural adjustment ..... 24 Agricultural adjustment in 1934 ..... 25 Agricultural adjustment 1933 to 1935 ..... 26 Basic questions and answers on agricultural adjustment 27 Before the Secretary of agri- culture... In re: Pro- cessing tax on hogs under section 9(b) of the Agri- cultural adjustment act... 105 Benefit payments from pro- cessing taxes raise farm income nearly one-third .. 6 Corn-hog adjustment ..... 106 Cotton processing tax ..... 82-83 Emergency hog marketing pro- gram ..... 107 Farm income, benefit pay- ments and processing taxes 18 Farmers' tariff ..... 39 Fifty questions and answers on wheat production ad- justment ..... 140 hearing on process tax on cotton filling material, report of ..... 42	U.S. Dept. of agriculture, Agri- cultural adjustment administra- tion, Division of information. Processing tax ..... 31 U.S. Dept. of agriculture, Bureau of agricultural economics Economic situation of hog producers ..... 108 Recent developments in the domestic cotton textile industry ..... 85 studies on the incidence of the processing tax, re- ferred to ..... 24 U.S. Dept. of commerce, Business advisory and planning council .. 20 U.S. President, 1933- (Roosevelt) Cotton textile industry ..... 84 Urban residents, pay larger part of processing tax ..... 17 Van Gelder, D., testimony on the probable effects of a pro- cessing tax on hogs ..... 105 Waite, W.C.: Agricultural adjust- ment and processing taxes ..... 109 Wallace, B.A.: Processing tax: the farmer's tariff ..... 32



	Item		Item
Wallace, H. A. ....	43	Wheat policy, Great Britain com-	
New frontiers .....	33	pared with the United States ...	126
statement on incidence of tax,		Whitaker, D.R.: Why stock growers	
quoted, .....	9	association opposes processing	
Statement... to Senate Committee		tax .....	35
on agriculture and forestry	22,34	Wilcox, W.W.: AAA as a force in	
Waugh, F.V.: Recent developments in		recovery .....	36
the domestic cotton textile in-		Williamson, N.C.: Processing tax	
dustry. With C.C. Farrington		farmer's answer to high tariffs	86
and M.R. Cooper .....	85	Wilson, T.E.	
Weaver, A.J.S., testimony on sugar		Packers, the producers, and the	
processing tax .....	119	Agricultural adjustment act	110
Wheat		testimony on the probable ef-	
processing tax		fects of a processing tax	
effects .....	139	on hogs .....	105
on consumption 20,122,123,		Windfall tax levy .....	128
125-126,130,134,138-139		Wing, DeW. C.: Who pays processing	
on price of bread 20,126,		tax. With F.A. Flood .....	91
136,140		Woods, W.W.	
impounded, and processors'		Can meat processors pay the tax	21
profits .....	28	testimony on the probable ef-	
incidence, 11,14,24,30,33,126,		fects of a processing tax on	
128,133-134		hogs .....	105
not largely passed back to		Wool, prices .....	25
farmer .....	16	Working, Holbrook: World wheat	
not paid by the trade .....	124	survey and outlook, January	
paid by baker .....	132,135	1934. With M.K. Bennett and	
paid by consumer, 17-19,22-23,27,		H.C. Farnsworth .....	123
31,122,126-127,129,131,137,			
140-141			

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